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CONTENTS: Vol. LXV. No. 16 (Series No. 1,290).

	PAGE		PAGE
American Notes	668	London Drug Statistics ...	662
Association Ballads	648	Marriages	662
Australasian News	670	New Books	669
Bankruptcies and Failures	658	New Companies and Com-	
Birth	662	pany News	659
Business Changes	655	Observations and Reflec-	
Canadian Notes	668	tions	649
C.O.D. Proposals	641	Our Town Traveller	642
Coming Events	662	Personalities	655
Correspondence	660	Pharm. Soc. of Ireland:—	
Deaths	654	Council Meeting	667
Deeds of Arrangement ...	659	Pharm. Soc. of Great	
East Indian News	640	Britain:—	
Editorial Comments:—		Examination Results ...	647
The Possessive Case ...	650	Recent Wills	648
The Bromide-market ...	652	Scotch News	638
Aconitine Formulæ	652	Society of Chemical In-	
The Law of Anti-cutting ..	653	dustry	656
Notes	653	Society of Chemist-op-	
English News	636	ticians	669
French News	638	South African News	633
Gazette	659	Trade-marks Applied For	641
Irish News	637	Trade Notes	655
Kaleidoscope	648	Trade Report	663
Legal Reports	658	Winter Session	644

BETTER BUSINESS.

CAREFUL commercial observers predict that early in 1905 we shall begin to take the turn in the series of bad business years. Money is expected to be more plentiful, confidence restored, and orders more generous. The drug-trade is sure to feel the advantages of the improved condition of things, and there is not the slightest doubt that those business-houses who meet the future with complete confidence will be the first to reap the harvest.

We want them to recognise that *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary* for 1905 will do business for them in the year of prophesied renewed prosperity; and the more thoroughly they describe their goods or business-methods in the *Diary* advertisements, the better will be the results. This matter should receive early attention, and instructions given to the Publisher, C. & D. *Diary*, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

BOOKS TO BUY.

The new edition of the "Art of Dispensing" (price 6s., by post 6s. 4d.) is meeting with great favour. The dictionary of new remedies in it is alone worth the money.

Young chemists who think of starting in business should first read carefully "Opening a Pharmacy" (price 2s., by post 2s. 2d.).

Published at the C. & D. Offices and stocked by leading wholesalers.

Summary.

THE POSSESSIVE CASE has long been a trouble to retailers of medicine, but some relief is now afforded by the Board of Inland Revenue, who inform us that they have placed the following among non-dutiable titles: *Liver Pills* (Sir Andrew Clark), *Christison's Pills*, *Hamilton's Pills*, and *Dobell's Aperient*. The Board add that they will similarly treat other preparations of a like nature as to which evidence re non-proprietary origin, as satisfactory as that which we have submitted in respect to the four mentioned, is forthcoming (p. 650).

THE LATEST STORE PRICES for druggists' goods are mentioned on p. 636.

THE MAJOR AND MINOR examination results at Edinburgh are printed on p. 647.

THE P.A.T.A. principle appears to be making fair progress in Australian States. Queensland has now adopted it (p. 670).

THE ANTI-CUTTING SCHEME of the N.A.R.D. is in danger, partly owing to legal difficulties, but chiefly from starvation (p. 668).

SO FAR, the Winter Session is going on quietly, there being an absence of practical subjects and topical matters to stir up discussion (p. 645).

LONDON CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS, as represented by the Association thereof, are presented with a ballad for their next smoker. See p. 648.

THE FRENCH DOCTORS who have visited London this week have been well entertained, and have seen a good deal of our methods of practice (p. 636).

NEW ZEALAND is getting a new poisons law, and pharmacists are endeavouring to get its administration placed with the Pharmacy Board (p. 670).

THE VALUE OF LOCAL ORGANISATION was the theme which Mr. Walter Hills orated on at Maidstone on Wednesday, Mr. Stooke giving him the cue (p. 645).

THE NAMES of those who have passed the Irish Pharmaceutical Preliminary examination this month are given on p. 637. Ten passed and fourteen failed.

THE OFFICIAL REPORT of *McGunther v. Pitcher*, a case in which the Appeal Court has decided the limits of enforcing anticutting agreements, is summarised on p. 653.

OUR CAPE CORRESPONDENT, reporting on South African trade, says it is almost stagnant at present, but the approaching summer was expected to brighten things up (p. 639).

WE CONCLUDE our report of the U.S. tour of the members of the Society of Chemical Industry, who were royally entertained at Detroit by Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. (p. 656).

A PARIS CHEMIST'S ASSISTANT has suffered severely at the hands of two burglars who were in his employer's pharmacy. One of them, who has been found, is himself a chemist's assistant (p. 638).

MR. W. F. WELLS has been elected President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, a position which he has previously held with acceptance, and Dr. J. A. Walsh is the new Vice-President (p. 667).

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S PILL to cure an earthquake, and the President's prediction that Mr. Glyn-Jones will sit on the Woolsack yet, are the subjects of Mr. Fred Reynolds's sketches this week (p. 648).

THE ACONITINE CONTROVERSY which occurred in London some years ago is recalled by a paper of Dr. H. Schulze's, in which he demonstrates that Professor Dunstan's formula for the alkaloid is wrong, and Freund and Beck's nearer the truth (p. 652).

THE PRINCIPAL FEATURE of the week is a reduction in bromides and an advance in quinine. Phenacetin is lower, cod-liver oil is rising, and peppermint oil is marking time. The fortnightly auctions of drugs were rather larger than usual, and are reported on page 663.

APPENDICITIS is the cause of three deaths which we report this week, among them those of Mr. Chattaway, superintendent of the Apothecaries' Hall, and Mr. J. L. Hatrick. The obituary column is exceptionally heavy. Mr. Prior, a respected Oxford pharmacist, and Mr. Frank Oldfield have also passed away (p. 654).

THE opposition from the drug-trade to the postal C.O.D. system is proceeding apace. The Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations has memorialised the Postmaster-General; the P.A.T.A. is to do the same, and Mr. Frost, of Worthing, has drawn a reply from the P.M.G. which is the basis of a sharp rejoinder (p. 641).

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

The new syllabus of the Royal Albert Memorial College, Exeter, gives particulars of the pharmacy courses which are carried on in that college.

The contract for surgical dressings for the Stockton and Thornaby Hospital has been secured by Mr. T. Brayshay, pharmaceutical chemist, of 38 High Street, Stockton.

The Derby Board of Guardians have increased the salary of Mr. M. Shadford, chemist and druggist and dispenser to the workhouse, from 120*l.* to 140*l.* per annum.

The Burton employes of Boots Cash Chemists (Limited), had a *soirée* and dance on October 5. Mr. Robinson was chairman at the concert, and Mr. Rhodes M.C. at the dance.

A feature of the next sale at Anglesey Castle will be a large assortment of sweetmeats, perfumes, and medicines, among the latter being twelve bottles of a "cure for sea-sickness."

At a court of election of the Spectacle-makers' Company, held on October 6, the Hon. Alban G. H. Gibbs, M.P., was re-elected Master for the ensuing year. At the same meeting Lord Burnham was unanimously elected Upper Warden, and Mr. H. Hylton Foster was chosen Renter Warden.

The Cardiff Board of Guardians apparently have a great dislike to Sunday labour, for on the Dispensary Committee reporting to the meeting on Saturday last that Mr. J. Munday, ex-chemist, had taken stock for the last quarter on Sunday, the Board informed him that in future stock must be taken on a weekday.

At a meeting of the St. Pancras Board of Guardians last week, a new code of regulations was confirmed, having for its object the securing of a more methodical manner of ordering drugs, etc., for emergencies at the South Infirmary, and the obtaining of greater accuracy on the part of the contractors in sending delivery-notes with supplies.

A fire broke out on the premises of Mr. J. P. Norwood, pharmaceutical chemist, at High Street, Wath-upon-Deane, on October 7. Mr. Norwood kept the fire under by playing on the flames with syphons of soda-water. Bottle after bottle was emptied, and when the soda-water was exhausted he resorted to syphons of lemonade, thus thoroughly extinguishing the fire.

At the Shoreditch County Court on October 11, before the Registrar (Mr. E. E. Wickam), L. Givaudan, perfume-manufacturer, 40 King William Street, E.C., sued Kennedy & Co., wholesale perfumers, 159 Kingsland Road, N.E., for a debt of 3*l.* 6*s.* for goods supplied. The defendants did not appear, and judgment by default was given for the amount claimed, with costs, the whole to be paid by October 18.

At the opening of the session of the Pupils' Physical Society in connection with Guy's Hospital last week Professor MacAlister, in the course of an amusing inaugural address, read some ancient prescriptions. Among them was one compiled by an Egyptian monarch for the hair. It consisted of equal parts of dog's claws and calf's hoofs boiled in oil. Another prescription contained one hundred and forty-two ingredients.

Store-prices.

The alterations in prices in the circular of the Army and Navy Stores for October include the following:

Veronal tabloids, 4*s.* 8½*d.* and 9*s.* 4½*d.*; spare bottles for "Allenburys" feeders, 9*d.* each; "Zenobia" sweet pea blossom, 2*s.* 2*d.*, 3*s.*, 4*s.* 3*d.*, and 9*s.* per bottle; sweet pea blossom sachet, 10½*d.* each; "Carneta" perfume, 4*s.* 8*d.* per bottle; folding mahogany medicine-chest (3 rows), 7*l.* 10*s.* each; ditto (2 rows), 5*l.*

Lozong has been discontinued.

Visit of French Doctors to London.

The interchange of courtesies between physicians and surgeons of the British and French capitals has been a great success. The French guests arrived in London last Sunday, and there was an informal reception in the Hôtel

Russell in the evening. Between that time and Wednesday evening, when they were entertained to a banquet in the Hôtel Cecil, they visited the principal general and special hospitals, besides educational and research institutions. Our leaders in the art of healing vied with each other to entertain them, and the *finale* at the Hôtel Cecil was a never-to-be-forgotten occasion. Sir William Broadbent was in the chair, and the King sent a long telegram expressing his interest in the visit, and hoping that mutual benefit to both countries will ensue from it. Fully 150 French practitioners attended, some of them accompanied by their wives, who were also entertained. For example, on Wednesday evening they dined with their English hostesses and afterwards some of them went to the Alhambra to see the new ballet "The *Entente Cordiale*."

L.C.C. Matters.

At the meeting of the London County Council on October 11, it was reported by the Improvements Committee that Mr. H. Elborne, chemist and druggist, who has occupied 209 Tooting High Street as a yearly tenant for six years, has been awarded 30*l.* as compensation for removal.

At the same meeting it was agreed that consent should be given to the further application of Mr. A. Oldcorn to permit the retention of three wood and glass showcases in front of No. 1 Piccadilly Circus, St. James's.

It was further agreed, on the recommendation of the Main Drainage Committee, to accept the tender of Mr. J. Griffiths, of Morriston, Swansea, for the supply of 3,300 tons of proto-sulphate of iron (commercial green vitriol) to the Barking Outfall-works at 19*s.* 9*d.* per ton, and of 2,250 tons to the Crossness Outfall-works at 19*s.* 3*d.* per ton. The current-contract prices are 21*s.* and 20*s.* 4½*d.* The Committee stated that an informal tender had been received from Messrs. Carl Dicke & Co., of Barmen, offering to supply 2,250 tons during October, November, and December, 1904, and July, August, and September, 1905, at 3.75*m.* per 100 kilos. (approximately 38*s.* 1½*d.* per ton).

Analysts' Reports.

The public analyst of Wandsworth reports to the Council that during the past quarter he had examined two samples of lime-water and one of camphorated oil, and found all genuine.

Mr. G. E. Scott-Smith, the Sheffield analyst, in his report for the quarter ended September last states that he has analysed 191 samples. One sample of arrowroot, five of pepper, one of lard, and two of ground ginger were all genuine. Of four samples of camphorated oil, two were B.P., and the others contained only 15 and 17.5 instead of 21 per cent. of camphor. Of five samples of sweet spirit of nitre, one was of fair quality, one was of inferior strength, while three contained respectively only two-thirds, one-half, and one-half of the minimum of ethyl nitrite.

Repentant.

On August 26 a man was taken into custody for drunkenness. He gave the name of Henry Squire, of 20 Buckingham Palace Road, W., and was duly brought before the Magistrate and fined. The offender was a man named William Roberts, who was in the employ of Henry Squire (Mr. T. C. Reece), pharmaceutical chemist, of Buckingham Palace Road and Harley Street, W. Naturally Mr. Reece wishes the matter cleared up. A letter from the penitent Roberts to Mr. Reece fully explains things, and at the same time is interesting reading. He writes:

I most deeply regret the unfortunate affair referred to. I may mention that I have spent many anxious days and sleepless nights in my endeavours to keep the news out of the trade journals. When I gave your name I never thought of being taken in charge, but, having once done it, there was no means of retracting it, much as I would have desired to do so. It may be advisable in many cases to shut the eyes and govern the tongue, but in the future, as in the past, I intend both these organs to serve the person who pays me!

The final sentence is rather obscure in meaning, but apparently the assistant desires to expiate his offence as regards his former employer.

Sheffield Notes.

Among the plans recommended to the City Council for approval at their meeting on Wednesday last was one for

alterations to the premises of Mr. J. T. Dobb, chemist and druggist, in Spring Street.

At the annual meeting of one of the largest of our medical charities on October 6, one of the speakers made some stringent remarks about the abuse of the hospital "recommend" system by people who could afford to pay for medical treatment. These remarks have attracted a considerable amount of attention, and have led to a correspondence in the local Press.

Pharmaceutical education in Sheffield is not satisfactory. Owing to the dearth of apprentices and the consequent lack of support, there have been serious threats that the pharmaceutical classes included in the syllabus of the University College should be abandoned. This has been avoided up to the present, but it is a sign of the times; and now Mr. J. W. J. Turner, Ph.C., has closed the Sheffield College of Pharmacy, established by Dr. Robert B. Greaves and him in 1890.

Birmingham Notes.

Mr. T. Cooper-Clarke, chemist, is not vacating his premises at Market Square, Brewood. His shop forms part of the estate of the late Dean Freer, and, together with other copyhold property in the district, is to be sold; but his tenure of the shop will not be affected thereby.

The Married Women's Property Act of 1882 is causing traders who give credit much trouble in our city. Recent decisions in the local county court have increased the already numerous difficulties of tradesmen in dealing with lady customers. A legal authority suggests that a tactful trader could easily ask the question without giving offence, "Are we to enter this to you or to your husband?" A husband is liable for any debts the wife contracts on account of what the law regards as necessities, which could be easily made to include medicine, surgical appliances, perfumery, and soaps, and to avoid liability he has to show that he has not authorised her to pledge his credit.

The Sale of Cough-mixtures.

At Clerkenwell on October 12, Mr. Walter Schroeder held an inquest on the body of Charles Thomas Read (53), a jeweller, of Northampton Square. The evidence showed that Read had suffered from some chest-trouble, but had not seen a doctor. On October 9 he appeared to be very bad, and his sister got threepennyworth of "cough-mixture" at a neighbouring chemist's. She was told to give him only half a teaspoonful every three hours; but shortly after he had had the first dose his sister went out of the room, and when she returned a few minutes later he had drunk the remainder of the mixture—1½ oz. For a time he seemed rather easier, but he died on the following morning. The chemist's assistant, questioned by the Coroner, said the mixture contained squill, aniseed, &c., but no laudanum. He was in the habit of selling cough-mixtures without prescriptions, and it was very rarely that people told him much about the patients. The mixtures were merely soothers. Simple cough-mixtures were even sold in oilshops.

The Coroner: Yes, they are, and I consider that a great mistake. There is, however, nothing in the law to prevent them or chemists selling these things; but great harm is done indirectly, as when people are able to obtain mixtures which they think will relieve them they do not consider it necessary to call a doctor to prescribe until it is too late. Chemists have things to sell, but they should take means to ascertain the condition of the people, and advise them to call in a medical man. In the present case had a doctor been sent for the county might have been spared the cost of an inquest.

Death was shown to be due to syncope while suffering from acute pleurisy, and a verdict to that effect was returned.

The Week's Poisonings.

Sixteen deaths from poisoning have taken place during the week, four only being misadventures. Three of the fatalities were caused by the unscheduled poisons hydrochloric acid and phosphorus. Kathleen Wills, eighteen months old, of Atherton, sucked the heads off twenty-five matches, and died from phosphorus-poisoning. The hydrochloric-acid victims were Elizabeth Morton (61), of Tooting, and Rose Martin (23), a domestic servant at Portsmouth. Carbolic acid was taken with fatal results by Joseph Charville (64), of Ripley, by Mary Ellen Shackleton (42), of Keighley, and by George Tupling, of

Hull. Samuel Wardle (62), a Sheffield cutler, poisoned himself with laudanum, and the same narcotic caused the deaths of Cecil W. Beasley, of Cardiff, and Ann Brooks-bank, of Bradford. William Richardson Haggerston, coal-teemer, of South Shields, poisoned himself with cresol, which his wife had obtained from the Health Office a short time before. At Southwark, on October 9, Dr. Waldo held an inquest on Charles Henry Apps, who died from oxalic-acid poisoning. The evidence of James Apps, aged ten, a brother of the deceased, was that Charles sent him to a chemist's shop at the corner of Tabard Street, Borough, for a pennyworth of oxalic acid. The lady who was serving in the shop asked who the acid was for, and his brother entered the shop and said the oxalic acid was wanted for cleaning brass. The acid was supplied, and deceased afterwards told witness that he had taken the acid. Alice King, of 304, Tabard Street, deposed to having served the oxalic acid. She would not sell any other poison on any account. The Coroner remarked that it is extremely unfortunate that oxalic acid is not placed in the same category as arsenic and other deadly poisons. A register should be kept of oxalic acid as well as of other poisons. As it was anyone could buy oxalic acid at a colour-shop.—Joseph Wilson, of Kentish Town, drank some poison (unnamed) in mistake for "hop ale" and died. Albert Smith, a St. Pancras bus-driver, swallowed an unknown poison, and died. In a case of attempted poisoning with oxalic acid at Highgate, Sir Francis Cory-Wright, before whom the would-be suicide was charged, commented strongly on the ease with which poisons like oxalic acid could be obtained, and directed that the chemist who sold the poison be asked to attend. Mr. Wright, chemist, of the Broadway, Crouch End, subsequently attended and deposed to selling the oxalic acid. In reply to the Magistrate he said he did not know the purchaser, but that was not legally necessary. The Magistrate thought such a method of selling poisons was a perfect farce, but agreed that the chemist was quite within his rights. An unusual poison—potassium bichromate—ended the life of a builder's carter at Birmingham on October 9. At Stowmarket, Ephraim Robinson, a gardener, died as the result of taking nicotine weed-killer. Sarah Riley, of Huddersfield, took salt of lemon.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Pharmaceutical Preliminary Examination.

The following have passed:—M. Carroll, G. A. O'Reilly, J. O'Connell, J. J. Casey, M. L. Coonan, M. J. Keating, T. Mitchell, J. Unsworth, M. J. Parkes, G. Quinlan. Fourteen candidates were rejected.

The Missing Chemist.

A Dublin chemist who read the description of Mr. W. B. Perry in last week's *C. & D.* believes the young man was in his shop on October 4, and is in communication with his father.

Personal.

Mr. S. Parker Boyd, M.A., J.P., chairman of Boyleau & Boyd (Limited), Dublin, has been co-opted a traders' representative on the Dublin Port and Docks Board.

The Assistants' Association.

The Irish Chemists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association have secured permanent meeting-rooms at the Nelson Café, 33 Lower Sackville Street, Dublin. The intention is to make the place a club, open one evening each week for members and their friends.

Analysts' Differences.

At the last meeting of the Newtownards (co. Down) Board of Guardians a letter was read from the L.G.B. stating that, in connection with the drugs reported unfavourably upon by the analyst, which Messrs. John Clarke & Co., Belfast, supplied, the decision of the analyst must be considered final (see *C. & D.*, October 1, page 568). The Guardians also received a letter from Mr. Robert Barklie, analyst, stating that he could not in any way account for the difference in results obtained by himself and Messrs. Clarke's analyst. The Guardians took no action in the matter in face of the L.G.B.'s letter.

The Empties Trouble.

Mr. P. N. White, Sligo, has written to the Drogheda Board of Guardians enclosing an account for 7l. 5s. 3d., being the balance due for unreturned empties. He says he has made repeated applications for payment, but as no attention has been paid to them he will be compelled to place the matter in the hands of his solicitor. It was now decided to write to the dispensary doctors on the matter.

Drug Standards.

Sir Charles Cameron, in his report to the Queen's County Council, states that during the past quarter he analysed thirty-four samples of drugs for the Mountmellick Guardians. Two of them—namely, compound tincture of camphor and concentrated solution of senega—were low in solids. For the Maryborough Asylum he analysed one sample of linseed meal, which only contained 7.78 per cent. of oil instead of a minimum of 30 per cent. For the Carlow Union he analysed thirty-four drugs, of which the following were defective: Tincture of cinchona, low in alkaloids; spirit of chloroform, high in gravity and chloroform; liquid extract of ergot, high in gravity and solids; liniment of belladonna, low in alkaloids. For the Roscrea Union, out of eight samples, only one (dilute sulphuric acid) was high in gravity.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Dundee Notes.

Owing to the autumn holiday on Monday of this week, Dundee chemists and others had the privilege of one day's grace in paying their methylated-spirit licences.

A chemist who lives in the suburbs has been fortunate enough to be able to gather within a short distance of his residence a large and regular crop of that excellent mushroom *Coprinus comatus*. It is pure white, and, unlike *Agaricus*, its head has a long conical taper.

The "People's Journal" has accomplished the remarkable achievement of writing a column and a half about Dr. H. B. Baildon, lecturer on English literature at the local College, without mentioning his connection with pharmacy between the time he left Cambridge a Senior Optime in 1872 and "the craving that led his willing feet to the academic groves of Freiburg." Dr. Baildon was formerly in business as a pharmacist in Princes Street, Edinburgh (succeeding his father), and was a pharmaceutical examiner and member of the Pharmaceutical Council.

Glasgow Notes.

Messrs. Lindsay Scott & Co., 59 Wellington Street, Glasgow, who have acted as sole agents for Aerators (Limited) in Scotland, have recently started a wholesale business in proprietary articles and chemists' sundries.

As a Lifeboat Saturday procession was starting in Airdrie a week ago, a horse drawing one of the vehicles took fright, and backed the vehicle into the window of Mr. Scobie, chemist. The window was shattered and the contents were badly damaged.

The Glasgow Optical Society, of which Mr. R. Tocher, Ph.C., is President, held the opening meeting of the session on October 13, when Mr. R. Rankin, Kilmarnock, read a paper on "Light, Sight, and Lenses." The B.O.A. local examination for the membership qualification is to take place towards the end of the current month.

Mr. R. Inglis, chemist, 69 South Portland Street, has removed to new and more spacious premises at 55 in the same street. The premises at 69, which now cease to be a chemist's shop, after having been occupied as such for nearly sixty years, were first tenanted by the late John Neil, who was succeeded by the late Alex. Kinninmont. The pharmacy has always been a landmark on the South Side. The neighbourhood, which was once the most fashionable in Glasgow and the residential centre of the leading physicians, has changed considerably, but it is now more densely populated than before, and is therefore a good business quarter.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

MOTOR-CAR IN A PHARMACY.—One morning last week two young men were practising steering a Stuart motor-car, and lost control of it, when it went into the front window of the pharmacy owned by Dr. Omnès, at 11 Rue Gay-Lussac.

A WEDDING "WITNESS."—The French law requires bride and bridegroom each to be accompanied to the Mairie by two "witnesses." Old and honoured friends of the family are usually selected for this function. Thus when Dr. H. L. Weber, of Philadelphia, recently led Mlle. de Lessert to the altar at Passy, Dr. Viron, head pharmacist at the Salpêtrière, was one of the bride's "witnesses," the other being Dr. Lancereaux (who was recently President of the Academy of Medicine). This Franco-American marriage created some interest in the Anglo-Saxon colony. One of the bridegroom's "witnesses" was Mr. Light, *attaché*, who represented the U.S. Consul at Paris.

HYGIENE HUSTLING AND PHARMACEUTICAL PROMPTITUDE.—The procrastination of Parliamentary procedure is proverbial, but proverbial also is the saying "Exceptions prove the rule"; and the Law declaring the Society of Alimentary Hygiene to be of public utility was rushed through at railway speed, it transpires, on the very last day ere the French Parliament dispersed for the Long Vacation. The Senate voted it at 4 p.m., and when it was conveyed to the Chamber of Deputies—the two French Houses of Parliament are fifteen minutes' walk apart—the President proposed "it should be printed and handed to the Committee of Public Hygiene" for consideration. But he had reckoned without his host, for M. E. G. Villejean, head pharmacist of the Hôtel Dieu Hospital, Paris, and Member for Tonnerre (Yonne) is a host in himself when hygiene discussion is afoot. He immediately rose and read a favourable report already made by the said Committee, asking the Chamber to proceed immediately to the discussion. Anxious to get away on holidays, they did not abuse the opportunity and promptly voted the Law exactly as it had come down from the Senate! The reason why M. Villejean was so pressing was that the programme of the International Congress of Alimentary Hygiene was to be drawn up at the Physiology Congress of Brussels during the vacation. The Congress itself, it appears, is to be held in October, 1905. It will principally deal with alimentary chemistry and physiology, and will seek to establish independent tables as to the chemical composition and caloric value of aliments.

BURGLARY OF A PHARMACY AND ATTEMPTED MURDER.—A crime of a particularly dastardly description was perpetrated early on Saturday morning, October 8, in the pharmacy owned by M. Quentin, at 19 Rue Brochant, in the Batignolles quarter of Paris. Two burglars broke into the shop and all but murdered an assistant, named Letailleur, who was sleeping in an adjacent room. The burglars accidentally smashed a pane of glass, and this aroused the assistant, who thought a night customer was trying to make himself heard. Letailleur went into the shop and encountered the two burglars, who at once knocked him down, half strangled him, beat him on the head with a hammer, finishing up by stabbing him again and again in the body, but fortunately touching no vital part. The assistant had at first begun to cry "Murder!" and "Help!" which was partly the reason why he was so badly attacked, but seeing resistance was useless he lay motionless on the floor and the burglars began to ransack the till. While they were doing this Letailleur heard one of the men say, "I have half a mind to cut his throat, as he is still breathing," but the other retorted, "Let him alone now; he is quite done for, and we have no more time to lose," and the victim in this way just escaped the fatal knife. The burglars only found about 400f. in the cashbox, and they then made off after giving Letailleur a few extra blows on the head with the hammer, which rendered him quite unconscious. In their hurry to get away the ruffians left their hats in the pharmacy. Letailleur is now lying at the Beaugon Hospital in a very serious plight, but the doctors there hope to save him. The whole of the dramatic scene lasted but a very short time, as the second assistant

was sleeping in an adjoining room but heard nothing. [Telegraphing on Thursday our correspondent informs us that the police believe they have found Letailleur's chief assailant, Edouard Cortail, a pharmacy assistant, aged 28.]

THE PATIENT AND HIS FEE.—A great deal of interest has been aroused in Paris by a lawsuit which is about to be commenced by an American of wealth, Mr. George Crocker, against a well-known Paris surgeon, Dr. Doyen, for the return of the whole or part of the large fee of 4,000*fr.* paid in advance to the surgeon by Mr. Crocker for professional services to be given to his wife. The American was not satisfied with the progress the patient was making, and withdrew her from the surgeon's care. The lady was suffering from cancer, and has since died. The case has developed various phases of medical etiquette, but the most interesting of these from the pharmaceutical point of view is the fact that last year Dr. Doyen informed the Paris Academy of Medicine that he had discovered a serum for the cure of cancer. It appears that Dr. Doyen claims that it is this particular serum which he used for treating Mrs. Crocker, and of which he alone possesses the secret; also that a considerable part of the large fee claimed by him was for the application and sale of this serum. This raises an interesting point for pharmacists from the fact that they alone have the privilege of selling drugs and medicines and that the sale or supplying of secret remedies is prohibited. The Law of April 11, 1803 (21 Germinal, Year XI.), is very emphatic on this point, and reads as follows:

1. No one may open a chemist's shop, prepare, sell or supply any remedy if he has not been admitted in one of the schools of pharmacy, or by one of the juries, established according to the prescriptions of the present law, and complied with all the formalities which this law prescribes.

2. Chemists are only permitted to deliver or sell medicinal preparations or drugs of whatever description according to the prescriptions made by physicians or surgeons or health officers with their signature. They are prohibited from selling any secret remedy.

According to this law, Dr. Doyen ought to have his serum prepared by a duly authorised chemist, to whom he must give a prescription. Dr. Doyen promises some interesting statements if he can obtain the permission of the Courts to be freed from the obligation of professional secrecy in the Crocker case.

South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

Note.—THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa, viz.:

SOUTH AFRICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.
PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF CAPE COLONY.
NATAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
TRANSVAAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
RHODESIA PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
NORTHERN DISTRICT CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.
PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

Cape Colony.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS valued at 152,000*l.* were imported into Cape Colony during the seven months ended July, 1904, compared with 240,000*l.* for the corresponding period of 1903.

THE SPIRIT QUESTION was, when this letter was written, still uppermost in the minds of South African druggists, business being so bad they have plenty of time to talk over the *pros* and *cons* of it all. Everything seems to indicate that the Cape and Orangia will have to yield to Natal and the Transvaal, and charge the *ad valorem* rate on tinctures, etc., and not spirit-duty. If this is so, then the money already paid by importers on spirit contained in these products will have to be refunded. Instead of the Customs being a source of revenue in this particular connection, they will need more clerks to straighten out the muddle.

NOT THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.—At East London the other day a local chemist sued a customer for 4*l.* odd for goods purchased over three years ago. The defendant pleaded that the plaintiff's claim was barred under Section

5 of Act 6 of 1861, by which "persons practising any branch of the medical profession" cannot bring an action for recovery of fees after the expiration of three years. The question at issue was whether a chemist belongs to the medical profession or whether he is on the same footing as a general trader, and entitled to claim at any time within eight years. The Magistrate decided that the plaintiff's claim did not come under the prescription of three years, and that the chemist was not a member of the medical profession. Judgment was accordingly given for the plaintiff. Notice of appeal was given.

TRADE throughout South Africa is stagnant. Of all the Colonies, Orangia perhaps shows up best; for certainly business is better there than anywhere else in South Africa, population for population. For the most part it is the natural outcome of events during the past few years, but not altogether so; maladministration on the part of the Governments has had a lot to do with it, and it is difficult to say what a state of bad times might not have been reached had it not been for the banks keeping the commercial community—especially the younger members of it—well in hand. Wholesalers are complaining of lack of orders and money. There seems to be no spare money, and the business done is purely in lines that the public must have. Toilet-luxuries and holiday-goods generally are not wanted, and the photographic trade has fallen in sympathy. During October, November, and December an increased demand for lines pertaining to pharmacy is expected to set in, but normal conditions are not anticipated till well on in the new year, and not even then in the Cape peninsula. In the Cape proper we are never subjected to fits of depression or prosperity as at other centres. There is more stability in trade in the vicinity of Table Mountain than anywhere else in South Africa; it follows that the metropolis will not reap much in the "boom" that is supposed to be coming along "presently." There is a general feeling in well-informed circles that there is not going to be any "boom"; that trade will just look up as soon as the northern Colonies are more settled. This view is not shared either further north or east to any extent, but time will show whether or not it is the correct one—"personally," adds our Cape correspondent, "I think it is."

A MAFEKING CIRCULAR.—The following circular was received by a Mafeking correspondent "accompanied by an ill-written request (on a scrap of note-paper without date or heading) to sign and forward to the Colonial Secretary, Cape Town":

To the Medical Council and Pharmacy Board, Cape Town.

We, the undersigned, qualified chemists and druggists, respectfully ask your Honourable Board to have drawn up a petition, to be presented next Session of Parliament, for the proper regulation and sale of medicines in this Colony, whereby we may be enabled to protect ourselves and the public from the indiscriminate sale of drugs by unqualified persons, that such restrictions shall be put upon the sale of patent medicines by other than duly qualified persons, and a proper definition made for the sale of so-called Dutch or patent medicine, which it was understood (when your Honourable Board was first formed) should only be such items as were contained in the Huis Apotheek, whereas at the present time all kinds of mixtures, pills, lotions, etc., are retailed by ordinary shopkeepers as Dutch medicines, to the detriment of duly qualified chemists resident in the villages, and not only that, but that patent articles are opened and retailed by such unqualified persons.

We deeply feel the want of protection, more especially in the country districts, and feel assured that there are a sufficient number of duly qualified chemists to provide one or more to each village in the Colony, but, by reason of medical practitioners being their own dispensers, and the want of protection by law for chemists, they are unable to make a living, although qualified by your Honourable Board.

We would, therefore, respectfully ask that a meeting of country chemists be convened by your Board for the purpose of hearing reports and suggestions to form a Bill to be presented next Session for our mutual protection.

Our correspondent points out that no mention is made of the sale of poisons by unqualified vendors, and he suggests that the circular would have carried more weight had there been some indication of its source.

AN ACCUSATION, which has caused much comment in Cape Town, has been brought against Mr. Ernest William Raven, formerly manager of Messrs. Burroughs Well-

come & Co.'s branch here. Mr. Raven appeared before Mr. W. D. Lotter, A.R.M., Cape Town, on September 10, to answer a charge of embezzling 7*l.* from his firm. No evidence was given, and he was liberated on bail—Mr. A. J. Rivett, resident manager of Messrs. Lennon (Limited), and Mr. Alfred H. Mathew, of Messrs. Heynes, Mathew & Co., being his sureties. The same happened on September 13, and the whole matter was fully gone into on September 20, when Mr. G. Trollip appeared for the accused, and the inspector of police prosecuted. Mr. T. A. Dalgleish, C.A. (Messrs. E. R. Syfret & Co., Cape Town), the first witness, stated that on August 17 or 18 he received cabled instructions from Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. to suspend Mr. Raven. On August 19 he told Mr. Raven that he had instructions to suspend him for altering the balance-sheet certified by Mr. E. R. Syfret. Mr. Raven had until the following day to put his papers in order and to remove his personal belongings. On August 26 witness, in his capacity as manager, instructed Mr. Fillis, clerk to Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., to apply for all overdue accounts and to send notices to customers. On August 29 accused called at his office. He had written to Mr. Fillis giving a list of the accounts he (Mr. Raven) had collected, and informed witness of the fact. These had not been placed to the firm's credit. Witness cabled the fact to the London house, and was instructed to hand the case over to the police. The money had been paid by accused on September 19. Cross-examined by Mr. Trollip, witness stated that accused had a running monthly account with the firm, and had received money on the firm's account and given the firm his cheque. In reply to the Magistrate witness said this was before the depôt was established two years ago. Replying to Mr. Trollip, witness said there was a balance every six months, and whenever there was money owing Mr. Raven paid it in to square. He had served the firm well. Witness had no fault to find with him, and had always regarded him as an upright and honourable man. The inspector of police then re-examined witness, and it was elicited by Mr. Trollip that on August 29 it was found that 184*l.* 14*s.* had been received by Mr. Raven. This was debited to him and credited to customers. Accused had admitted that he was pressed for money, but would square up at the balance—August 31. Mr. F. G. Fillis, Dr. Vos Stein, Mr. F. W. Good (Francis & Co.), and Mr. A. G. Martin having given evidence, the Magistrate intimated that the papers would be sent to the Attorney-General for his consideration, and Mr. Raven was bound over to come up when called upon. Mr. Alfred H. Mathew's security in 50*l.* was given.

Natal.

IT IS INTERESTING to note that during the first six months of 1904 Natal imported medicinal preparations from the United States direct valued at 9,000*l.*, and 1,000*l.* worth was shipped from Germany direct.

THE TINCTURE QUESTION.—There is general jubilation among the drug-fraternity at the decision of the Government to abandon the idea of taxing tinctures. Mr. Marchant, the only member of the Legislative Assembly who is in the drug-business, largely contributed to the rejection of the obnoxious measure by impressing upon the Government the hostility of the chemists towards the measure.

THE PHARMACY BOARD.—Great interest is being shown in the forthcoming Pharmacy Board election which takes place, writes our Durban correspondent, on September 22. A special general meeting of the Natal Pharmaceutical Society was held in Durban on September 15 to hear the views of the retiring members and to select new candidates for the election. There were present: Messrs. Champion (President), Anderson, Stranack, Burn, Williams, Ryan, Charlton, Johnston, Holden, Firth, Ross, Rutherford, and Elgie (Hon. Secretary). The President stated that the three retiring members were Messrs. Charlton and Elgie, of Durban, and Mr. Marchant, of Verulam, and that these gentlemen were eligible for re-election. The Government had re-appointed Mr. C. A. Fawcett and himself as members to represent the Government on the Board, and it was necessary to nominate three members of the Natal Pharmaceutical Society to represent themselves. Messrs. Champion and Elgie, the two Durban members, entered at length into the work of the Board for the past five years,

pointing out the many fruitless endeavours that had been made to induce the Government to alter the Medical and Pharmacy Act. A very animated discussion followed, in which Messrs. Johnston, Rutherford, Anderson, and the retiring members took part. The President having called for nominations, the following names were submitted: Messrs. Forth, M. W. Stranack, S. K. Elgie, T. D. Charlton, all of Durban; Mr. F. Turner, of Maritzburg; Mr. Adams, of Ladysmith; and Mr. J. E. Marchant, of Verulam. A ballot having been taken, the President declared the following gentlemen duly nominated to represent the Natal Pharmaceutical Society: Messrs. Stranack, Elgie and Forth. The Hon. Secretary was instructed to send a circular to each chemist in the Colony, inviting support for the three candidates selected by the Society. Election addresses have been issued by Mr. T. D. Charlton and by Mr. J. S. Warren, both of Durban.

Orange River Colony.

THE MEDICAL AND PHARMACY BOARD are meeting regularly, and are engaged in various details in connection with the administration of the new Ordinance. It is rumoured that the medical members would like to make changes in the Poison Schedules by transferring certain articles from No. 2 to No. 1 Schedule. Dr. G. Pratt Yule (M.O.H.), who drew up the Act, is at present away on a home trip, and it is suggested that it would be better to leave the matter over until his return. [We had a talk with Dr. Yule this week. He is gathering a lot of information for his colleagues while here.—EDITOR.]

BUSINESS IS QUIET, writes a Bloemfontein correspondent, and the general outlook is not very encouraging. The railway administration are dismissing numbers of men, and the military authorities, who have been building extensively and employing large numbers of men, find they have exceeded their estimates for the present year, and are in consequence obliged temporarily to cease building, so that the ranks of the unemployed are swollen. It is also rumoured that a Civil Service Store is to be started in the city, owing to Bloemfontein being the seat of Government. There are a number of Civil servants resident here, but as many of them are young men and unmarried it is scarcely likely that the Stores would gather much from them.

Rhodesia.

NOTIFICATION IS GIVEN in the Salisbury journals that formal application for the registration of a certain (specified) trade-mark will shortly be made by Dr. Williams's Pink Pills for Pale People Medicine Company, of New York and London.

Transvaal.

DUTCH DRUGS.—Captain Pritchard, President of the C.S.A.R. Tender Board, Johannesburg, notifies that the tender of Mr. J. Sacks, of Pretoria, has been accepted for the purchase of old Dutch drugs from the Administration.

East Indian News.

MR. F. W. FRANKS, representing the Sanitas Company (Limited), and Mr. A. E. Fearnley (for Messrs. W. J. Bush & Co. (Limited)), were at Bombay when the mail of September 24 left.

ON LEAVE.—Major Prain, Superintendent of the Royal Botanic Garden at Sibpur, Calcutta, goes on long leave at the end of October, when his duties will be undertaken by Captain Gage, Curator of the Herbarium.

EXEMPT.—The Government of India have sanctioned the exemption from import-duty of the following dairy appliances when constructed so that they can be worked by manual or animal power—viz., milk sterilising or pasteurising plant, milk aerating and cooling apparatus, etc.

THE LAHORE VETERINARY COLLEGE is to be largely extended by the amalgamation with it of the Ajmere Veterinary School, the latter having proved more or less a failure in Rajputana.

COLLECTING RUBBER.—The Assam Forest Department is disposing of the right to collect and remove indiarubber from the forests in the Darrang Division for the next rubber-tapping season, which extends from December 1 next to March 31, 1905.

C.O.D. Proposals.

THE FEDERATION MOVES.

THE following is the text of a letter which was forwarded to Lord Stanley, P.M.G., on October 11 :

Sir,—We, the Executive Committee of the Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations of Great Britain, respectfully suggest to your Lordship that the proposed Cash-on-Delivery postal system should not be put in force for the following reasons :

Firstly. The public generally have not expressed a desire for the system, as the parcel-post and the postal-order system provide sufficient means for the transaction of business which cannot be done through local shopkeepers.

Secondly. The Cash-on-Delivery postal system is principally demanded by advertising manufacturers or agents and large storekeepers in London, who have little regard for the necessity of the business of the country being adequately distributed, and who seek to secure the distributing facilities of your department merely to increase their returns and dividends.

Thirdly. The introduction of a Cash-on-Delivery postal system by encouraging the centralisation of retail business to London and a few large centres would be instrumental in damaging, if not destroying, the business of shopkeepers in provincial towns and villages.

Fourthly. It would largely facilitate the disposal of objectionable nostrums and appliances of an injurious nature, which would not find an opening if the articles had to go through the ordinary channels of business.

Fifthly. The system is not required in this country, which is so densely populated and has so many business centres that the public have the benefit of ready local service, while exorbitant profits are checked by the prevailing competition. Moreover, it is felt that the Government or any Department thereof should not favour one class at the expense of the other class.

Sixthly. We feel strongly that so serious a menace as the Cash-on-Delivery system to the prosperity of the shopkeeping class, which has played so important a part in the national life and government of the country, ought not to be taken without some compensating provision.

We therefore trust your Lordship will not give effect to a proposal of so revolutionary a character.

We are, Sir, your obedient Servants,
WILLIAM LITTLE CURRIE (Chairman), Glasgow.
HERBERT ANTCLIFFE, Sheffield.
RICHARD FEAVER CLARKE, Gravesend.
HENRY WIPPELL GADD, Exeter.
WILLIAM WATSON-WILL (Hon. Treas. and Sec.), London.

Mr. Watson-Will informs us that a copy of these resolutions has also been sent to the Secretary of every Chemists' Association in the country, with the request that each Association should take immediate action in the matter by calling a meeting of the members to discuss it and at once to give effect to whatever decision is arrived at.

P.A.T.A. PETITION.

The P.A.T.A. has also moved. The Council last week unanimously decided that a memorial should be sent from the P.A.T.A. protesting against the Postmaster-General's proposals, it being felt that the scheme would injuriously affect the members. This week reply postcards have been sent to the members of the Manufacturers' Section asking what their views are.

NORTHERN COUNTIES' IDEA.

Mr. T. W. Townley, of Keswick, Hon. Secretary of the Cumberland and Westmoreland Chemists' Association, has sent a reply postcard to every chemist in business in those counties, asking for an answer to the following questions :

Do you approve of the C.O.D. system? Would it be advantageous to our members? If the C.O.D. is adopted what can country chemists do to secure their present customers?

The answers are unanimously "No" to the first and second questions, and as to the third the opinion is general that there would be no remedy for country chemists, who would be still further deprived of business by the big town stores.

THE WORTHING CHEMISTS' MEMORIAL.

Mr. W. T. Frost, of Worthing, has received from the P.M.G. a reply to the Worthing Chemists' memorial (see *C. & D.*, September 24, page 558). Lord Stanley, in his

letter of October 3, says he would much regret any loss to chemists or any other section of the community "from the introduction of a new postal facility, which, if it were introduced at all, would be instituted for the purpose of promoting the interests of the public at large." After extensive inquiries in various countries that have adopted the system, however, he is disposed to think that the opponents of the scheme are under a misapprehension as to its probable results. He therefore forwarded to Mr. Frost a description of the plan contemplated, copy of correspondence in which objections are discussed, and copies of replies to inquiries made of various foreign Post Offices. The rejoinder of the chemists of Worthing was as follows :

Worthing, October 4, 1904.

Sir,—On behalf of the chemists of Worthing, I beg to acknowledge the receipt of the Postmaster-General's courteous reply to their protest against the postal "Cash-on-Delivery" system.

They would point out that his Lordship's arguments in favour of this system would be overwhelmingly convincing were England a large country with insufficient facilities for supplying the needs of its population. But the exact converse is the case. We have a small country with an elaborate system of supply-stores closely dotted over the land. This convenient system is to be disarranged, and the great bodies of people who have built up this system of supply are to be seriously injured, merely that one Government Department may emulate the exploits of another in copying Continental models. We can only express our hope that the "C.O.D." proposals may go the way of the Brodrick Cap and the phantom Army Corps.

We note, with regret, that his Lordship shows no appreciation of the grave political and social danger of artificially centralising into a few wealthy areas practically the whole trade of the country.

Yours faithfully,

W. T. FROST.

A PEER'S INTERVENTION.

The Earl of Dysart writes to the "Times" advocating the system. In the course of his letter he says :

In the matter of the opposition raised by the Pharmaceutical and other societies, I really think that such bodies should be in a position to ascertain for themselves what has been the practice in other countries—e.g., for 40 years past in Germany and Austria. The ridiculous arguments advanced by these opponents would lead one to believe that Germany and Austria are absolutely denuded of small village and even of provincial tradesmen, which in the phrase of Euclid "is absurd." . . . Is not the whole matter a storm in a tea cup, seeing that local tradesmen retain their credit trade, the backbone of their business in villages, and the same proportion of sales remains to customers who have immediate need of some article, while they themselves can benefit by the C.O.D. in procuring small quantities of special articles?

We understand that his Lordship is a bit of a chemist himself, but not one of the kind that feels the pinch of centralisation-trading schemes.

Trade-marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B. Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks at the Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost £1, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," September 23, 1904.)

Label device; for plasters. By the Alcock Manufacturing Company, 22 Hamilton Square, Birkenhead. 263,720.

"THRETIPENE"; for chemicals. By B. C. Tipper & Son, 43 Horner Street, Balsall Heath, Birmingham. 264,014.

"SIKOTA"; for chemicals. By the South African Remedy for Piles Syndicate (Limited), Strathearn House, Rissik Street, Johannesburg. 264,045.

"ATC. NÖBEL"; for "Quietone," a medical preparation. By A. Nöbel, 115 High Street, Whitstable. 264,597.

"CONCENTROID"; for chemicals. By A. L. Gieve, 38 Gubyon Avenue, Herne Hill, S.E. 264,803.

"VIMONT"; for chemicals. By J. E. Garratt, 124 Southwark Street, S.E. 264,915.

"TWILIGHT"; for toilet powder and papers. By D. Hunter, 5 Nelson Street, Edinburgh. 265,057.

"SEBASTIANARIS" ("Sebastian" disclaimed); for mineral water. By O. Berend, 132 Wool Exchange, E.C. 261,330.

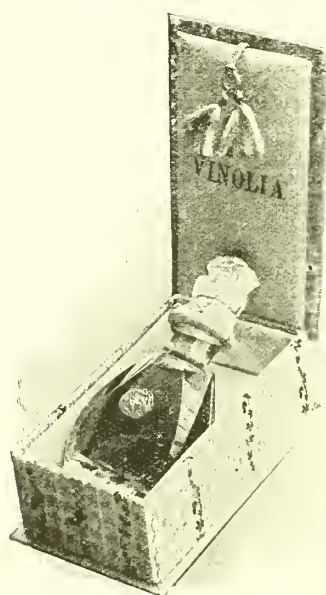
Our Town Traveller.

With the Christmas season looming in the not-far-distant future, the careful chemist looks to his stock of perfumery and fancy goods. In the showrooms of the large perfume-houses of the metropolis the new designs in perfume-caskets and so forth have been on view for some time. Apparently "age cannot wither nor custom stale the infinite variety" of the designs of these goods, for each succeeding year finds new patterns and new ideas, and this year is no exception. I have observed, however, that the multiplicity of designs is not so great as usual this year. Manufacturers have not been quite so prodigal in invention, and this is easily explainable when one thinks of the rather depressed condition of last year's trade, and the suspicion that there may be some of last year's stock still left on the retailers' hands.

One of my recent visits was to Malden Crescent, N.W., where the latest

VINOLIA INVENTIONS

are to be seen. There, as usual, I noted several novelties in caskets. The first I saw were in straw edged and interlaced



with ribbon of various colours. The series consists of single, double, and triple bottle cases of choice Vinolia perfumes. A very pretty series has the cases covered with beautiful brocade. This is quite unique and the effect is most pleasing. The single-bottle style is shown in the illustration, but the colour-effect is of course lost in the black-and-white reproduction. Cheaper lines are paper-covered cases with embossed figuring (two perfumes in case), costing 16s. 6d. per dozen, and a single case with Grecian modelling on the lid costs 18s. per dozen. Much richer

and more ornate boxes are those covered in green plush with gold-embossed flowering, which contain a single bottle of perfume; and a magnificent casket, silk-covered all over, with a hand-painted design on the lid, which holds two beautiful cut-glass bottles of perfume and a cake of "Vestal" Vinolia soap. The design is indicated in the



accompanying illustration. There are likewise single and double caskets in plain white silk—emblematic of purity—and dainty dames such as Sir Joshua Reynolds used to paint are smiling on the top. The "Combination" casket contains two perfumes, a cake of soap, a box of Vinolia powder, and lypsol. One might spend an afternoon among the

glories of Vinolia and cover pages with pæans, but C. & D. space is distinctly limitable.

Mr. R. J. Reuter, of 6 Well Street, Jewin Street, E.C., is by way of being

A SPRAY-SPECIALIST.

I examined as complete and chaste a selection of perfume-sprays in his showroom the other day as I have ever seen. The vertical pump-spray (with the handle caught in the lid) is of course the design now most affected, and the decoration, engraving, and tinting of the glass in some of these sprays is magnificent. They are to be had with silver or gold mounts, and at prices ranging from 2s. to 21s. each. The older-fashioned spray with rubber bellows is represented by over a hundred different patterns. A case for holding the cylindrical variety of spray is of wood with an art-metal top let into the lid. These are very choice, and cost 2s. 9d. each. The perfume-caskets are also in considerable variety. The single-bottle series includes leatherette, wooden, polished, and silk-covered cases in many pretty colours and with much care and taste displayed in their embellishment, both external and internal. The bottles used are beautiful specimens of cut-glass ware, and the labelling is in good style. Prominent among the new styles of casket are the shell-pattern, one or two cameo patterns, and a wooden case with a metallic appearance decorated in art copper. The last-named contains two perfumes and a spray. It is fitted with lock and key and sells at 17s. 6d. There are many other lock-and-key caskets with lift-out interiors, all of which make ideal jewel-cases when they have played their part as perfume-cases. The plan adopted last year of packing a large finely cut bottle of perfume in a plain wooden case with corrugated-paper lining has been elaborated this year. Buyers liked the idea of paying for the perfume only and getting plenty of it, so that Mr. Reuter has on view this style in many sizes. While in the showroom I observed a new combination stock-and-show case for clinical thermometers. It is a neat case in blue plush with glass cover. The varieties of thermometer are indicated in gold lettering against the groove provided for each size (30-seconds, 60-seconds, etc.), and a blank price-tablet is fixed opposite, for the retailer to put on his price. The top half, on being lifted, discloses underneath a set of stock receptacles, each with room for one dozen clinics. The case costs 5s., or is given free with an order for six dozen thermometers. I also inspected an improved nasal irrigator with the nozzle turned up instead of straight, so that it may be used without any undue tilting-back of the head.

In the showroom of the Crown Perfumery Company, at 108 Fore Street, E.C.,

BASKET-WORK CASKETS

are much in evidence. These are very neat, with a cameo design in the centre of the lid. They are produced in single, double, and triple series of bottles, the "subject" prices being 34s. 6d., 51s., and 70s. per dozen respectively. A plush case containing three bottles of Crown perfumes, and having a spring lid with a patent catch, is rather taking. On the lid a bird (in art metal) is sitting on an art-metal bough. A single-bottle casket in embossed paper, with a silk-lined interior, is decorated with a bunch of artificial violets attached to the lid. The Crown "Natural Violets" introduced recently is now sold cased singly with no advance in price. The "Natural Violets" is bottled in four or five sizes. A silk-lined gelatin casket with metallic floral decoration looks pretty, and sells (with one bottle) at 34s. per dozen. Other noticeable caskets are in corded plush, oblong shape, a Wedgwood case (one-bottle) which looks good value for the money asked for it (7s. per dozen), and a dainty Gainsborough series.

THE ERASMIC SALON

at 117 Oxford Street, W., reveals many pretty boxes. Erasmic is strong this year in single-bottle perfume-cases, and the prettiest is a polished green-tinted satin-wood case with a Burne-Jones female figure in oxidised art-metal let into the lid. It is a 60s. (per dozen) line, and all lovers of the uncommon in art as allied to perfumery will buy it. A triple-bottle case in the same style has the metal decoration in copper-bronze. It costs 90s. per dozen. The other single-bottle cases are in various tints and colours—a pretty cameo series being specially noticeable. New designs—

marvellously un-hackneyed—are to be seen in paper-covered caskets, the cheaper varieties ranging in cost from 8s. per dozen upwards. A much-appreciated feature in connection with the Erasmic caskets is that there is no name or advertisement on any part of the box, and it may be put to any private use afterwards that the purchaser may deem necessary. A new series of twopenny toilet-soaps is just introduced, costing 13s. 6d. to 14s. 6d. per gross. These are meant as a special line for chemist's own name, and the milling, polish, and general finish are likely to commend them to customers. The "Duchess" brand of toilet-soaps is now put up in special boxes, and with a special label for chemists who wish to push the brand as their own soap. The Erasmic shaving-sticks have recently been given a new decorated tin container with a push-up bottom, and a quarter-dozen bijou sticks (to retail at 3d.) are presented gratis to every purchaser of one dozen shilling sticks.

A dip into the cosy office and showroom of Mr. R. V. Wagner, at 34 Gray's Inn Road, W.C., disclosed a few select productions in

FRENCH PERFUMERY.

Mr. Wagner is sole agent in the United Kingdom for the perfumery of Jn. Giraud fils, of Grasse and Paris. Few can beat the French at the putting-up of perfumes or in any delicate branch of commerce in which *chic* is a necessity. Therefore it was not surprising for me to find "Fougère de France," "Ixia Lys du Japon," "Rose de Turquie," and so forth, with a distinctive nattiness redolent of La Belle République. The extracts mentioned are among the most recent productions of the firm, but there are many more—Extraits Brise Nérolya, Cattleya, Rêvé, and Glycine Aimée, for instance—all beautifully bottled, labelled, and finished. The four last-named are put up either in fancy casket or in flat bottle packed three in a cardboard box. These are unmistakably French, but Messrs. Jn. Giraud fils produce a "Royal British Bouquet" (produced in Royal red and crown complete) and "Kentish Hops"—two perfumes that from patriotic motives alone will appeal to the average Britisher. The scent of the hops has been faithfully reproduced, and the title and idea are, as far as I know, quite new. Besides perfumes Mr. Wagner showed me toilet-waters in great variety, sachets, brilliants, and all the paraphernalia of the toilet-trade. This courteous gentleman is also agent for the eau de Cologne of Johann Anton Farina (Stadt Mailand) and that of Johann Maria Farina gegenüber dem Gereons Platz.

AMIEL'S PERFUMERY,

in gorgeous caskets, profuse in variety, and tasteful in design, is to be seen at 38 Basinghall Street, E.C., under the *agis* of Messrs. Van Oppen, Ross & Co. There are some new styles of bottles, quaint shape and fine cutting, and the labels are of the golden-seal type throughout. Peginning with a light blue leatherette box with gold lettering and a single bottle of perfume, the whole costing 8s. 6d. per dozen, I went through a long series until I attained the high-water mark of elegance in a beautifully cut bottle containing about 8 oz. of perfume which sold at 126s. per dozen. The intermediate caskets were all worth looking at, and many of them tempting. The art metal decoration is apparently one of the latest crazes, for here, as in other places, I noted several specimens. Hand-painting on silk is of course a feature, as it always is, in these productions, and there are some fine examples of delicate handiwork to be seen. One in particular is a fine casket, white silk covered with a green-silk edging. On the padded lid is a well-executed painting, in delicate and well-balanced tones, of a basket of violets and bunches of the flower lying here and there. But the ornamental value of these presentation-caskets is not, as I have indicated, confined to the box itself. Some of the bottles are quite new in style of cutting and finish. Plain, fluted, fiddle-shaped, square, oval, and various other indescribable shapes in bottles enhance the value and elegance of the gift.

"HARLENE" LITERATURE.

I dropped into the sanctum of Mr. Edwards, of "Harlene" celebrity, this week, and had a chat about things in general. Apparently the abnormal multiplicity in rival hair-restorers is having no effect on "Harlene," for business continues as good as ever. A reorganisation of the staff at High Holborn has, however, led Mr. Edwards to imagine

that there may have been some chemists whose applications for showcards, price-lists, and general information regarding "Harlene" products may have been overlooked. If any there be, he would be obliged if they would again communicate their desires to Edwards & Co., 95 and 96 High Holborn, W.C.

A slump in casket-perfumes was foreseen and carefully guarded against this year by Messrs. Yardley & Co. (Limited), of Carpenters' Road, Stratford. There I found that

CUT-GLASS BOTTLED PERFUMES

have replaced to some extent ornate caskets with surprisingly successful results. "Our aim," said Mr. Gardner, the managing director, to me, recently, "is to give all the value in the perfume and bottle, the container being only a secondary consideration. The idea has been so appreciated by retailers that our trouble now is to find cut-glass bottles enough to keep up the supply." The bottles are beautifully cut, square and shaped, and, filled with good perfume, are good value for the money. There are three sizes—the squares retailing at 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., and 3s. 6d. each, and the fancy shapes up to 4s. 6d. each. Each bottle is packed in a neat canvas-covered box with gold lettering. The labels are artistic gold-block squares, and golden ribbons are used to tie the stoppers. The total effect is very smart, and, as Mr. Gardner pointed out, the purchaser is paying for the perfume, and not for the box. But let it not be thought that caskets have been utterly neglected. That is by no means the case, for I noted at least two dozen new patterns in exquisite designs. The lines which are selling best include a satin-lined case with a padded lid blocked in gold containing a 1-oz. cut-glass bottle of perfume, with polished stopper, costing 13s. 6d. per doz. wholesale. These are produced in six assorted colours. A novel "twisted" box (containing one perfume), covered with Japanese paper, nicely handpainted and having transverse puffs of green-silk ribbon across the lid, top, and bottom, costs 42s. per dozen. A two-bottle souvenir, with a rising-sun effect, gold-block lettering and pink-silk lining, retails at 3s. 6d. with a good margin of profit. Other noticeable boxes are a "gold" creation specially produced for Indian trade and very cheap, and a handsome production in several tints, with art-metal decorations in oxidised silver. "Milady" toilet-powder, in three tints (6d. and 1s. boxes), continues its triumphal progress in the favour of the fair.

The casual visitor

DOWN WAPPING WAY

will see several things worth seeing if he has the luck to encounter Mr. Fairfield, of D. & W. Gibbs (Limited). It was my good fortune to steal a few moments of that busy gentleman's time the other day, and he showed me the latest Christmas specialities in Gibbs's soaps. First and foremost there is a leatherette case, strong and picturesque, which when open discloses six cakes of Gibbs's cold-cream soap. The soap removed, a neat and useful stationery-box remains, and a pocket on the inside lid reveals the presence of three or four picture-postcards. All this, soap included, costs the retailer 2s., and he can have his choice of two colours. Use and ornament are also combined in a handkerchief-box and a glove-box, each containing six tablets of soap. The handkerchief-boxes are linen-covered with leatherette corners, and a gold-blocked monogram adorns the centre of the lid. They are in three colours, and likewise cost 2s. each wholesale. The glove-boxes are quite different in style from those of last year. They are in leatherette, fancy colours, and have a neat little picture in the centre. The latest soaps are productions of a high-class character—"Vera Violetta," "Otto de Rose," and "Spermacti," to wit. These struck me as being of superior quality, and the price—1s. per tablet retail—will, I should think, not be hard to obtain. A series of three neat little boxes with hinged lids, each containing three tablets of soap, are tastily got up, and ought to sell "like winking" at 6d. per box. But the purchaser with the humble penny is not overlooked. A mysterious little cardboard box announces on the lid that

Baby wishes you a Happy Christmas and a Good New Year.

Removal of the lid discloses in each box a soap baby—black, white, pink, or transparent—all for the nimble *denarius*.

Winter Session.

Stockport Chemists' Association.

AN ordinary meeting of this Association was held on October 5, Mr. Wm. Dodge in the chair. A motion, proposed by Mr. Orrell and seconded by Mr. Hicks, disapproving of the adoption of the C.O.D. system was carried, and the Secretary was instructed to communicate the decision to the proper authorities.

Teesside Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting of this Association was held at Middlesbrough on October 6, under the chairmanship of the retiring President, Mr. R. R. Bainbridge.

SECRETARY'S AND TREASURER'S REPORTS.

The Secretary (Mr. W. Finlayson) read the annual report, giving a *résumé* of the work done by the Association during the past year, the meetings held, and the benefits which had accrued to members. He especially emphasised, as proving the benefit of an association, the fact that on the Stockton members being approached by the local Co-operative Society to supply their members with drugs and chemists' sundries, the members unanimously declined to have anything to do with the proposal. If there had been no Association, it is probable that one or two of the chemists, not seeing clearly the issues involved, would have accepted the proposal to the detriment of their own trading interests and professional standing.

The Treasurer (Mr. A. Lee) submitted the report of income and expenditure, which showed that, although there had been twenty-one months' expenditure owing to the change of date of the annual meeting, there was still a balance in hand of 3*l.* 6*s.*

The President, after commenting on the Association's work, called on the meeting to appoint the

OFFICERS FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.

The voting resulted as follows: President, Mr. Middleton-Taylor; Vice-President, Mr. J. Gregory; Secretaries, Messrs. W. R. Brackenbury and A. Salmon; Treasurer, Mr. A. Lee; Auditor, Mr. J. C. Thompson; Executive Committee, Messrs. Colman and Finlayson, together with the officials.

Leeds Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting of this Association was held on October 6. The chair was occupied by the President (Mr. G. W. Worfolk), and there was a good attendance.

At the commencement of the proceedings the prizes awarded under the Bowman Prize scheme took place. The prizes, which consisted of books, had been won by Messrs. Stockdale, Proctor, Steadman, and Wright, but only Messrs. Wright and Stockdale were present to receive the awards.

THE ANNUAL REPORTS.

The Secretary (Mr. J. C. Long) presented the annual report, which stated that the past year had been one of great activity, and in many respects remarkable. Greater efforts had been made in the direction of social activities, but the educational and scientific objects of the Association had not been overlooked. The Librarian (Mr. Gough) had at great pains thoroughly overhauled and put in order the library, and the rules of the library had been reconstructed.

Mr. F. W. Hollingworth presented, on behalf of Mr. Beacock, the Treasurer, the balance-sheet, which showed a balance of 1*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.* Both reports were adopted.

AMENDMENTS OF RULES.

The President proposed the amendment of Rule 2 in order to make subscriptions payable on May 1 instead of October 1. He said it was his intention also to move an alteration of Rule 5 to substitute the holding of the annual meeting in May instead of October. These were agreed to.

Mr. Pilkington Sargeant moved the alteration of Rule 4, to substitute two secretaries for one, but the meeting disapproved.

The President next moved the alteration of Rule 4 in

order to provide for the election of three vice-presidents instead of one as formerly, which was also defeated.

THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS

resulted as follows: President, Mr. W. G. Worfolk; Vice-President, Mr. W. D. Pollitt; Treasurer, Mr. J. H. Beacock; Secretary, Mr. W. T. Castelow; Council, Messrs. Hollingworth, Preston, Mundell, Sargeant, Kirk, and Furness; Librarian, Mr. Gough; Auditor, Mr. G. Jackson.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

THE first meeting of the twenty-eighth session was held at 75 Newnham Street, W., on October 6, when the new President, Mr. R. E. Lownsbrough, delivered his inaugural address. The minutes of the annual general meeting having been read and passed after a little trouble, the essay prize (consisting of the Association's silver medal and a copy of Remington's "Pharmacy," with a cheque for 5*l.* given by Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co.) was awarded to Mr. F. W. Gamble for his essay on "Serums and Immunity." The President then gave his

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

Mr. Lownsbrough confessed to taking an unusual subject for a presidential address—namely, "The Law of Universal Hate." This was really a biological study, particularly of minute organisms, and was, in fact, an elaboration of the well-known lines:

Great fleas have little fleas
Upon their backs to bite 'em;
Little fleas have lesser fleas,
And so ad infinitum.

By this review of life he sought to impress upon his hearers that efficiency is the only means of successful existence. Without it the object must become extinct like the dodo, which lived in Mauritius, and used its legs instead of its wings, until the Dutch arrived with rats, and the latter exterminated the dodo. Man has an equipment which other forms of life have not. He rules by reason, thought, organisation. He has the power to forecast the results of action and the development of mind which brings him to that efficiency which governs all. The educated man is confident in himself and converses easily. He is calm and dispassionate, ever ready to help others, and is looked up to with respect and honour. Pharmacy is a profession wherein it is essential for success that mind should triumph. The chemist should make thoroughness his keynote. By active work, by careful reasoning, by seeking a cause for everything, by ardent education, he can make himself a power without limit. Consulted by medical men and trusted by his clients, he feels that his life is being spent in helping his fellow-creature, relieving suffering, conquering and preventing disease, doing his best to bring about that time when mankind shall be no longer "a little breed," but a race strong in mind, pure in motive, unselfish in aim, an ideal people.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Britton and seconded by Mr. Strother. The President, in replying, expressed his disappointment that the prizes are so little competed for. There is, he said, a danger of chemists becoming mere tradesmen if they neglect original work for outdoor sports or the mere making of money out of pharmacy. Further, he said that those who could contribute short papers should extend them into long ones.

Mr. MacEwan suggested that the President was too pessimistic. To the chemist all things are pure—anyway, the whole tendency of things is towards perfection. Referring to chemists' assistants and research-work, he said they could not do much of that and their duty at the same time, but there are many smaller problems to which they might give attention, because the work required merely to be started, then observation did the rest. Mr. Gamble considered that the difficulty of getting original work lies not in the scarcity of willing men, but in directing their minds into some particular channel. The President said that he did not think any good would result from the stimulus of suggestion. They had tried that before, but many seemed to care only to get through the time they were paid for. The remarks strengthened his point that if we wish to become efficient we must stimulate ourselves. The meeting then adjourned.

Great Yarmouth Pharmaceutical Association.

A MEETING was held at 156 King Street on Thursday, October 6, Mr. T. B. Male in the chair. The attendance was not large. The Secretary read several letters and reported on some matters that had been dealt with since the last meeting in June. On the proposal of Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Richmond, the name of Mr. W. Sheppard Poll was unanimously approved to be submitted to the Pharmaceutical Council as Divisional Secretary. The C.O.D. scheme was discussed, and strong opposition to it was expressed by all. The consideration as to how far the Shop-hours Act does or does not affect chemists was deferred, and a mutual arrangement as to earlier closing during the winter months was left over until the November meeting.

Halifax Chemists' Association.

THE MEMBERS of this Association held their first meeting of the winter session at the Old Cock Hotel on October 11, Mr. Clement Fielding (the President) being in the chair. There was a large attendance, including Messrs. H. Hebden (Hon. Secretary), G. C. Cobb, W. R. Fielding, Black, Swire, Swire, jun., Bowness (Luddendenfoot), Hodgson, Bottomley, and Haigh. The President delivered

AN INTERESTING ADDRESS

on the work of the Association. It was, he said, specially gratifying to see the winter session open with such a full attendance. There could be no gainsaying the fact that the present position of pharmacy demanded careful and serious study. Looking round at the trade as a whole, they noted strenuous efforts at expansion; signs were not wanting that much activity would mark the working of various associations during the coming winter. Some were giving special attention to the subject of co-operative buying. In trade matters like buying and selling P.A.T.A. articles the wholesale firms must be respected. They constituted one of the three forces necessary to the efficient protection of the retailer. Apart from P.A.T.A. matters, they found that wholesale houses subscribed freely to various local associations. It might be said by some that this hinted at a possible *quid pro quo*. One could not study the actions of various associations without noticing the fact that they were working on practically the same lines as those of twenty years ago. This he deprecated; he thought their large organisations should not be so persistent in keeping in the old grooves.

The meeting afterwards took a conversational turn on various subjects, one of which was as to fixing a night for the monthly meeting, and eventually the first Tuesday in each month was selected.

The President, Mr. Thompson, and Mr. Bowness were appointed delegates to the West Riding Federation.

Huddersfield Chemists' Association.

THE first meeting of the session was held at the Queen's Hotel, Huddersfield, on Tuesday evening, October 11. Mr. R. C. Walshaw presided, and there were also present Messrs. Akam, Sykes, Lawton, Jackson, Broadbent, Thompson, J. B. Wood (Hon. Secretary), and Johnson.

SHOP-HOURS ACT.

The Chairman observed that this Act will come into operation on January 1. The local authority may put the Act into force if there is a petition in favour of its application.

Mr. Sykes: It is a sort of local option?

The Chairman: Yes; they can put it into force if they like.

The meeting was unanimously in favour of affiliation with the Chamber of Trades, but no resolution was passed.

THE C.O.D. SYSTEM

was discussed, and the Chairman thought they ought to do their best to prevent it. The meeting as a whole concurred, and it was resolved—

That the Huddersfield Chemists' Association are of opinion that the proposed cash-on-delivery postal system

is inimical to the interests of provincial chemists, and are therefore strongly opposed to it.

The Hon. Secretary was directed to forward a copy of the motion to the Postmaster-General. The Chairman stated that he had forwarded a protest on his own account.

Mr. Walshaw was appointed a delegate to the Leeds Chemists' Association's annual dinner.

The Hon. Secretary presented his

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT.

in which it was stated that the membership is twenty-seven. The balance-sheet showed a surplus of 2*l.* 10*s.* 11½*d.* to the good. The report was adopted.

OTHER BUSINESS.

Mr. Thompson was elected a member.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the retiring officers, on the proposition of Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Jackson.

Mr. Walshaw was elected President for the third year in succession, and he accepted the office on the understanding that someone else should succeed to the honour next year. Messrs. Akam and Sykes were elected Vice-Presidents, Mr. J. B. Wood Hon. Secretary and Treasurer (with several appreciative tributes to his excellent services), and Messrs. Akam, Wood, and Jackson were appointed delegates to the West Yorkshire Federation of Chemists' Associations.

North Kent Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Royal Star Hotel, Maidstone, on Wednesday, October 12, the President (Mr. A. Stooke) in the chair. There was a very good attendance, and Mr. Walter Hills, Treasurer of the Pharmaceutical Society, was present.

Letters were read from Mrs. Turtle and family in reply to a letter of condolence sent by the President in their recent heavy bereavement. Mr. Turtle had been a member of the Association from its commencement. Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones acknowledged the congratulations sent upon his being called to the Bar.

The Secretary read the report of the delegates appointed to attend the British Pharmaceutical Conference and the meeting of the Federation of Local Associations at Sheffield.

It was unanimously agreed that the Association should forward a letter to the Postmaster-General expressing the strongest objection to the proposed introduction of the cash-on-delivery system.

The President then read a paper on

THE VALUE OF LOCAL ORGANISATION.

He lightly sketched the origin of the North Kent Association, and said that the Executive's desire is not to have two or three of a town represented in the Association, but to have every qualified chemist of each town to belong to and take an active part in its work. He submitted that such associations promote social intercourse, encouraging friendly feeling among chemists; they are useful to the Pharmaceutical Society, and increase each other's knowledge. Mr. Stooke then referred to some of the main points which have been discussed by the Association over which he presides. Among these was the Shop-hours Act. The Association has succeeded in inducing chemists to combine for a weekly half-holiday in Gravesend, where it has been tried for a year, and seems perfectly satisfactory. Rochester, Chatham, and Gillingham have adopted it for some years, and Sittingbourne and Milton longer still, and there does not seem to be any inclination to revert to the long hours and no weekly relaxation. Perhaps Maidstone will follow. "If," said Mr. Stooke, "we see a neighbour having shop-lights burning and door open, we give him credit for some urgent demand necessitating it, and have been confirmed in that opinion by seeing the next week and following the shop loyally closed as by agreement. May this good understanding long continue." Mr. Stooke also referred to chemist-opticians.

Other speakers followed, including Mr. Rowcroft.

Mr. Walter Hills, who was very cordially received, said they were living in very interesting times. The develop-

ment of science and social and other problems made it, to a thoughtful person, a time of great interest, though there was no doubt that these were times of great stress and strain for those whose principal efforts must perforce be devoted to providing a competency for themselves and those who depended upon them. (Hear, hear.) There was a tremendous and fierce competition in business. At the present moment there was a great depression in trade, and there were special difficulties with which they as chemists and druggists had to contend. He would like to refer to one or two. In the first place, there was the custom—he was afraid it was not on the decrease—of medical men dispensing for their own patients. He did not know to what extent quite the custom prevailed in that town, but he knew at least one town in the North of Kent where some years ago an arrangement was made between the medical men and the chemists there under which all the dispensing was to be done by the chemists. (Hear, hear.) He wished such an arrangement could be made generally, and he thought it quite possible for Associations of that description to consider the question with useful results. But they must look at it from another point of view, and it was brought forcibly before him recently. The more unfortunate classes, who were least educated, regarded a bottle of medicine as of more value than professional advice; an uneducated person was often more willing to pay half a crown for his bottle of medicine than for the most valuable advice obtainable. They (the chemists) must think of that sometimes. Mr. Hills next came to a consideration of the contravention in spirit of the principle underlying the Pharmacy Act of 1868, which was perhaps their greatest grievance of all. The judgment of the House of Lords in 1880 amounted to this—whatever the *obiter dicta* of any learned judge, a limited liability company is not a person. This question was raised times without number at the various committee-meetings of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society. They had taken the highest opinion available to determine the point, and they were told that if they went to a Court and took the line Mr. Rowcroft had suggested, and prosecuted a limited-liability company for the use of the term "chemist," they (the chemists) would be beaten and, having regard to the judgment of the House of Lords, deserve to be beaten. Did they (the local Association) not think that the members of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, chemists like themselves, if they saw the least chance of success, would not really take up a case and try to prevent limited-liability companies from using the term "chemist"? (Hear, hear.) They must also recollect this—if they took a professional aspect of the word, and regarded it both in practice and name, they, who traded in their own names absolutely, ought to have one business and one name. Were there not many houses in which they were using to some extent names that were not on the register? He assured Mr. Rowcroft the Council took action in cases very successfully where unregistered individuals used the term "chemist." He had spoken of the difficulties of chemists. But it was not all gloom. There were one or two bright spots. There were various developments going on at the present time to which he could refer. There was the development in the photographic art, and apparatus was required for it. There was also a growing tendency to make use of electrical and other appliances. There were ways in which he hoped registered persons were doing well at the present time. Now, one of the objects of an Association like that was for the members to meet together and talk over difficulties that presented themselves to different individuals and in different localities, and to try to show to one another how those difficulties might be overcome, and how certain new methods might be adopted for the advantage of all. (Applause.) These Associations removed the feeling of estrangement; they promoted good will and good fellowship among chemists, and induced them to come out of their shell. He thought sometimes that a chemist was apt to form too great an attachment for his shop, and thereby did himself more harm than good. He often thought also that if a registered chemist and druggist would come out and take part a little more among the public of his district it would be good for him.

A spirited discussion followed, and Mr. Hills was warmly thanked for his attendance and his interesting address.

North-East Lancs Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting was held at the White Bull Hotel, Blackburn, on Tuesday night, Mr. T. Critchley, J.P., occupying the chair.

The report of the Secretary (Mr. Jos. Hindle) recorded what had been done in a comparatively uneventful year. The social side had been more in evidence. The membership of the Association is twenty-seven, of this nineteen being in Blackburn. Mr. Hindle recommended that a slight alteration be made in the subscription of persons where two or more are engaged in one and the same shop, the subscription of the first to be 10s. 6d. and of others in the same establishment 5s. He thought it would have the effect of bringing in more members. The report, together with the Secretary's recommendation, was approved.

The Treasurer (Mr. C. A. Critchley) reported that notwithstanding that certain expenses which were incurred last year had been met, an old deficit had been wiped off, and there was a balance in hand of 1*l.* 18s. 3d.

Mr. Hindle was cordially thanked for his services as Secretary, and, an unsuccessful effort having subsequently been made to induce him to continue in office, Mr. A. H. Garland was unanimously appointed his successor. Mr. T. Critchley was re-elected President, and the following were appointed Vice-Presidents: Alderman R. Shorrocks (Darwen), Mr. R. L. Gifford, Mr. W. Wells, and Mr. Holt. Mr. C. A. Critchley was appointed Treasurer, and the Executive Committee is to consist of the President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, and Secretary, and Messrs. W. Pickup, J. T. Aspinall, E. Highton, and W. H. Grimshaw, along with a Darwen representative to be elected by the Darwen members.

Grimsby Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Oberon Hotel on Tuesday, October 11, Mr. C. Willson (Vice-President) in the chair. The C.O.D. proposal was discussed, and it was decided, on the casting-vote of the Chairman, to take no part in the agitation against the system, it being thought that it would be more in favour of chemists' interests than against them. It was resolved to have a dinner on November 17, and to recommend the reappointment of Mr. H. W. Colley as Divisional Secretary.

Oxford Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held on Tuesday, October 11, at the Golden Cross Hotel, Mr. J. W. Todd (President) in the chair. The Secretary announced the death of two members since the last meeting, Mr. G. T. Prior and Mr. H. Thurland. Mr. Prior was for many years the Local Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society in Oxford, and both gentlemen had been Vice-Presidents of the Association. The members discussed the C.O.D. system, and the following resolution was carried unanimously:

That in the opinion of this Association the introduction of the Cash-on-Delivery system would be inimical to the interests of the majority of Retail Traders.

Newcastle-on-Tyne Chemists' Association.

THE eighth annual meeting was held in the Hôtel Métropole on October 12, Mr. George Foggan (President) in the chair. There was only a moderate attendance, due, it was considered, to the inadequate notice sent out to members. It was unanimously decided that in future the Secretary convene meetings by postcard.

THE ANNUAL REPORTS.

The Secretary's report showed that the membership was 110. Death had removed two members, Mr. F. Weston and Mr. Joseph Roberts. There had been thirteen meetings held—social, scientific, and trade—with an average attendance of twenty-one at each meeting. The report was unanimously adopted.

The Treasurer's report also showed up satisfactorily—an adverse balance from the previous year of 3*l.* 6s. 5d. having been converted into a cash balance of 1*l.* 2s. 11d. The report was adopted.

Reports as to B.P. Conference and Federation annual

meetings were given by the President and Mr. T. Maltby Clague.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year: President (re-elected), Mr. George Foggan, Bedlington; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. G. F. Merson, R. Wright, T. Maltby Clague, C. Ridley, F. Gilderdale, and W. Atkins; Executive Council, Messrs. H. Pattinson (Whitley Bay), R. Cubey (Blaydon), J. S. Hill (Newcastle), J. J. Dakers, F. R. Parker, and J. F. Wootton (Newcastle), and W. Buckley and Jas. Gibson (North Shields); Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Wm. Kerse; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Wm. Pescod, 60 Osborne Avenue, Newcastle; Auditors, Messrs. G. Whitehead (Whitley Bay) and E. Dean (Newcastle).

The following were elected members: Messrs. Scott, Sloan, Arthur Taylor, and W. D. Kimmis, Newcastle, and Mr. E. Watson, Hebburn-on-Tyne.

The President returned thanks for the honour conferred on him, and reviewed the work of the year.

THE C.O.D. SYSTEM.

of which Mr. Foggan is an ardent advocate, was again rather fully gone into, in spite of the fact that the Association had last year adversely considered the scheme. The President held to the opinion that it would be a boon to chemists, especially in country districts.

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association.

THE annual dinner and smoking-concert of this Association was held at the Albion Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester, on October 12. Mr. George S. Woolley (President) occupied the chair, and among the ninety gentlemen present were Alderman Robert Gibson, Mr. R. A. Robinson, (President of the Pharmaceutical Society), Mr. W. A. H. Naylor, F.I.C. (President of the British Pharmaceutical Conference), Professors Hickson and R. H. Wild, Messrs. W. Kirkby, W. Lane, Harry Kemp, Geo. Bennett, H. Westmacott, A. J. Pidd, J. C. Kidd, J. Grier, D. Lewis, F. A. Ringer, J. W. Walton, J. Westmacott, and A. L. Blain.

The Chairman gave the toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society," to which Mr. Robinson replied. He said he had serious doubts whether Parliament in the next Session would deal with fiscal policy, pharmaceutical policy, or other policy, and proceeded to urge on his hearers the duty of supporting the Pharmaceutical Society. Next he defended the Council of the Society, declaring that it is fully and truly representative of the best interests of pharmacy in every department. Speaking of the Pharmacy Bill, Mr. Robinson prefaced his remarks by saying that the Society ought to include the whole community of chemists, if the Society is to speak for the whole. A Minister had said to him that the Society does not represent all, and he (Mr. Robinson) desired to be able to say that it does. He would not give his time if there is to be the same divergency as in 1868. Mr. Robinson proceeded to tell the gathering what the Council of the Society is doing, and the effect that the new scheme of committee chairmanships has had on the work. He continued his appeal to chemists, stating that the Society wants 3,000 new members, and concluded by saying that the Government do not look upon the company question as the Council does, for they seem to think one qualified manager was sufficient, and had taken legal opinion on the subject. He thought the C.O.D. movement was playing into the hands of the great London houses to the detriment of the trader in the provinces, and the Society was against the proposal.

Mr. Naylor proposed "The Manchester Pharmaceutical Association," which was responded to by Mr. G. S. Woolley, who said he was not quite prepared to say that he had made up his mind on the C.O.D. system. There was only one thing better, and that was C.B.D.—cash before delivery. (Laughter.)

After other toasts there was a smoking-concert, which was very enjoyable.

Chemists and Medical Men.

Speaking at the recent meeting of the Manchester and North of England Optical Society, Mr. George Bennett, the President, said fifty years ago medical men and phar-

macists were more closely identified with their own special spheres of duty than was the case to-day. Medical men are now selling medicines, surgical appliances, and druggists' sundries. They are conducting the business of a doctor with that of a chemist and druggist. To show that this had not been in the public interest, he said it is not unusual to see in the medical and pharmaceutical journals advertisements for coachmen and gardeners capable of dispensing. On the other hand, chemists and druggists have gone in for counter-practice; while doctors have been using coachmen, gardeners, and even women for dispensing, the chemist has been prescribing. This should have been prevented, and it would have been better for both doctors and chemists, and also for the public. If opticians were careful, he thought they could prevent their order from being split up and falling into the same condition of things. It seemed unfair for the medical man to take up the attitude he has taken up, at any rate in some quarters. He (the President) had taken up pharmacy at considerable cost, and the time came when he did a good business and a fair amount of dispensing; but the dispensing department gradually grew less and less, and in the place of it he developed a prescribing trade. That went on for a number of years, but he had the feeling that he was doing what was not a legitimate or correct thing for him to do. Nine years ago he gave it up, and went into the spectacle-trade, but had not gone on long with the business before he found he was beginning to be in the same position as when in the pharmacy business.

Tunbridge Wells Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held on October 11. The President (Mr. A. E. Hobbs) was in the chair and was re-nominated as Divisional Secretary. It was decided to hold the annual dinner at the Grand Hotel, Tunbridge Wells, on November 23. Mr. R. A. Robinson has promised to attend. Mr. Stedman, of Rotherfield, and Mr. Rouse, of Tunbridge Wells (successor to Mr. Stanley Smith), were unanimously elected members of the Association.

Pharmaceutical Examinations.

WE have received from the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain the following list of successful candidates who were granted certificates at the recent Examinations held in Edinburgh:

MAJOR EXAMINATION.

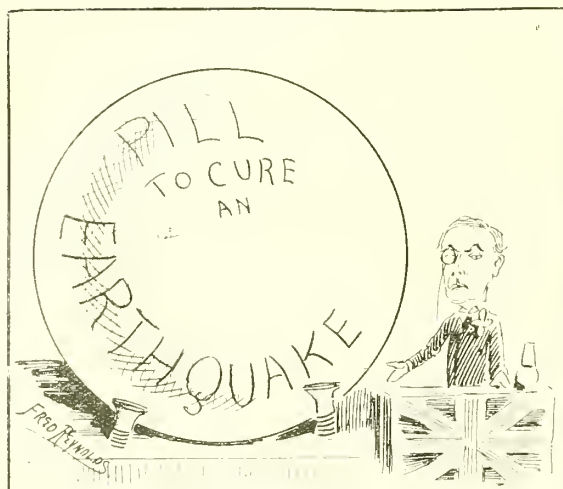
Candidates examined 2, failed 1—viz.,
Gilmour, John, Dunfermline.

MINOR EXAMINATION.

Adam, John C., Leith	Murray, David, Edinburgh
Anderson, John M., Alva	Murray, J. M., Edinburgh
Archer, Thomas M., Gateshead-on-Tyne	Nappin, A., Whitehaven
Atkinson, R. J., Bradford	Nicholson, G. F., Beckermest
Brown, A. F., East London, S.A.	Parkinson, C. M., Blackburn
Copland, John, Fochabers	Quaas, Gustav M., Glossop
Coutts, C. jun., Aberdeen	Rae, John, Hawick
Crowden, S. P., Edinburgh	Ramsden, R., Pontefract
Dickson, J. M., Edinburgh	Reid, Arthur G., Aberdeen
Fox, Ernest N., Halifax	Richardson, James, Larbert
Gairn, A. B., Edinburgh	Robertson, A., jun., Dunfermline
Gray, H. G., Lesmahagow	Schulze, Adolf, Bentheim-Rhine, Germany
Henderson, L. B., Edinburgh	Scott, W. N., Gateshead-on-Tyne
Hobson, J. J., Blackburn	Shepherd, John M., Dundee
Kunter, James E., Alnwick	Shepherd, William, Alford
Kershaw, Richard, Rochdale	Skilbeck, John M., Glasgow
Leith, Alfred B., Brechin	Tait, Albert P., Forfar
MacGregor, J. B., Charles-town-on-Forth	Tait, John, Glasgow
McNab, Leonard, Glasgow	Tranent, George, Spilsby
McNeil, Neil, Greenock	Wallis, G. F., Edinburgh
McNicol, D., jun., Rutherglen	Watson, E., Newcastle-on-Tyne
Milne, H. G., Old Meldrum	Wilson, George C., Glasgow
Mitchell, R. L., Glasgow	Wood, Robert, Prestonkirk
Moultrie, P. K., Dunfermline	

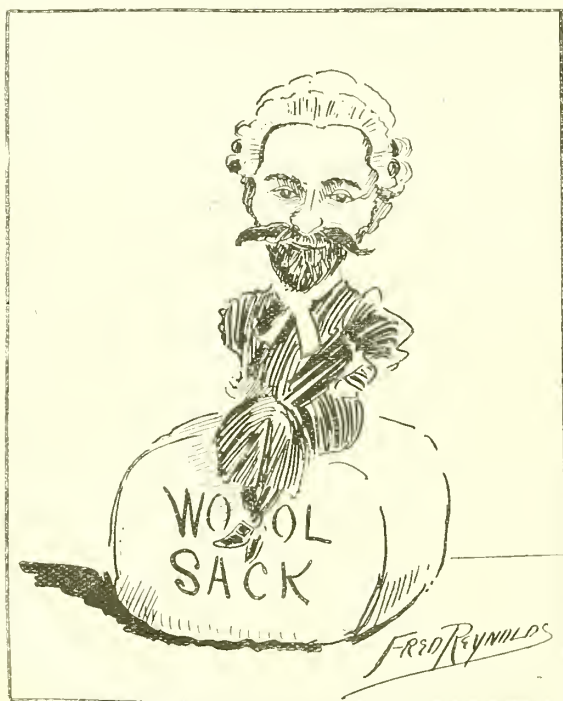
THE LATEST "DRUG-HABIT" the "Daily Mail" has discovered is "Gingerism"—a depraved craving for large doses of tincture of ginger.

The Kaleidoscope.



Mr. Chamberlain's Pill.

The only alternative proposal which has been made is a pill; but it is a pill to cure an earthquake.—*Mr. Chamberlain at Luton.*



The President's Prediction.

He hoped that, in ten years or so,
"Our Guest" would to the Woollack go,
And we would speak in awe-struck tones
Of our Lord Chancellor Glyn-Jones.
Who'd give the company-chemist pause,
And by-and-by
Would rectify
The hateful, long-offending Clause.

A VENDOR of low-priced medicines was proclaiming the good qualities of the articles from a stand in the market-place of a Midland town one day, assuring his hearers that though the price was low they could "not get better anywhere." "No!" one of the bystanders interposed, "I give you my word you can't. I bought some when you were here last year, and I've never got better since, though I've been very near all over England to try to get cured!"

Association Ballads.

THE PURPOSE.

*The men, their aims, their daily irk;
Their troubles, trials, thoughts, and views
On things politic, foes that lurk
In friendly guise, but treach'rous work—
These be the burden of our Muse.*

XL.—LONDON CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS.

(With apologies to Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B.)

WHEN I was a lad I went to a firm
Of pharmacists who made me squirm;
I dressed the windows and I thumped, alas!
At an aloes, and a ginger, and a blue-pill mass.
But I thumped so well, I am proud to say,
That now I am a member of the C.A.A.

Chorus.—He thumped, etc.

My apprenticeship too soon was o'er,
And then I went on the search for more
Experience, so that I could grip
The onerous requirements of assistantship.
But I gripped so hard in a West-end way
That now I am a member of the C.A.A.

Chorus.—He gripped, etc.

I brushed my hair with a centre part,
And the girls all sought to gain my heart;
For my waistcoats, coloured ties, and feet
Were the awe and admiration of all Oxford Street.
But ties and vests I have stowed away,
For now I am a member of the C.A.A.

Chorus.—But ties and vests he has, etc.

The peacock period passed, I reached
The time when conscience loud impeached
My cold neglect of the Minor cram.
So I began a-stewing for the Great Exam.
I dodged the traps down Bloomsbury way,
And now I am a member of the C.A.A.

Chorus.—He dodged, etc.

I have read the roll of the famous men
Who have talked with the tongue and have writ with the pen,
And have argued hard, but without any heat,
On the problems that have agitated Newman Street.
But the pride I feel I can't display,
For now I am a member of the C.A.A.

Chorus.—The pride he feels, etc.

The staid young Britton once did lead,
And Latreille knows our every need;
A blank there'd be if Strother went
For we'd miss his "Recollections of the Continent";
His tales ne'er show the least decay
As he gives them to each member of the C.A.A.

Chorus.—His tales, etc.

Now Dewhurst, Town, and Wieliffe Peck
With lauds and laurels one might deck;
But, really, though I dare not mock,
The lugubrious of Lowmsbrough give me quite a shock.
But none regrets, come when he may,
That he became a member of the C.A.A.

Chorus.—But none regrets, etc.

Recent Wills.

AIRD.—Letters of administration to the estate of the late Mr. Richard Aird, of 110 Marlow Road, Anerley, who died on April 6, have been granted to his widow, Mrs. Ellen Clara Emma Aird, by whom the amount of the gross estate is valued at 1,090*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*, the net personality of which is returned at 458*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.* Mr. Aird was formerly a representative of Messrs. Davy Hill & Co., and died suddenly at the George Hotel, Crewkerne.

HOGG.—The will of the late Mr. Robert Hogg, pharmaceutical chemist, and senior partner of R. Hogg & Son, Southwick Street, Hyde Park Square, W., who died on May 26, at 26 Florence Road, Ealing, has been proved at the Principal Probate Registry by his executors, Mr. Edward Grindlo Hogg, pharmaceutical chemist, the Rev. George Robert Hogg, of the Clergy House, Brooke Street, Holborn, clerk, and Mr. Arthur John Hogg, of 30 Haven Green, physician. His business is left in trust to his son, Mr. E. G. Hogg. The gross amount of the estate is valued at 10,167*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* and the net personality 9,102*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.*

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

C.O.D.

is attracting proper attention from chemists at last, and if other trades bombard the P.M.G. as vigorously as chemists' societies are likely to do this month, Lord Stanley may grow a little weary of his pet project. To do him justice, it should be recognised that he is taking the utmost pains to ascertain the views of the nation on the proposal. His own inclination has clearly been in favour of it, but he will hardly care to risk the resentment of a quarter of a million voters unless his personal opinions are supported by a very strong public demand. Probably retail traders in combination can exercise as much influence as drink-dealers, and these have swayed many a Government. How far the public has yet responded to the Postmaster-General's invitation has not been revealed. So far as has appeared, the agitation in favour of the innovation has been created by a section of the Press, especially by the proprietors of journals which are read by ladies, and which bring the secrets of the highest circles into the possession of the humbler classes. Incidentally these newspapers are a favourite medium for tempting the feminine mind with complexion-restorers, wrinkle-destroyers, quack medicines of various kinds, and nicknacks of many sorts. Heads of families who have to earn the money to pay for this rubbish can hardly wish for an extension of the facilities for buying more of it. It is noteworthy that

Mr. Henniker-Heaton,

who once agitated for C.O.D. as one of his sixty desirable Post-office reforms, has quietly abandoned his advocacy of this one. "Memphis," of Cairo, however, remains, and contemptuously classes the critics of C.O.D. with the old fogies who opposed railways, and who would still cling to their familiar yards and quarts. It happens that Egypt provides the strongest argument the Postmaster-General has in his armoury. Lord Cromer, who knows Egypt as well as chemists know Cannon Street, presses for the adoption of a C.O.D. arrangement between Great Britain and that country with much force. Its employment there is rapidly growing, he writes. "In 1902, 19,000 value-payable parcels, representing an aggregate value of 30,000*l.*, were sent through the Post-office. In 1903 the number of parcels rose to 25,400, representing an aggregate value of 38,500*l.*" The parcels, I understand, came principally from France, Germany, and Italy, and I do not see why dealers in those countries should have an advantage over our own merchants. But is it impossible to arrange a value-payable post between this country and others which may desire it in the Postal Union without necessarily forcing it at the same time on this country if there is no evidence of a special demand for it?

Ruskin

was a great writer and an original though somewhat erratic thinker. But it requires some courage to quote him as an authority on social economy. In his address to the School of Pharmacy last week, Professor Crossley extracted from this famous author a passage which by ingenious adaptation establishes the long-disputed proposition that pharmacy is indeed a true profession. Ruskin says there are five professions—soldiers, pastors, lawyers, physicians, and merchants. Dr. Crossley deduces from this classification that pharmacists, being part physicians and part merchants, are consequently doubly professional. Dictionaries have hitherto distinguished between professional men who sell skill and knowledge on the one hand and merchants

who sell goods on the other. But language is only a convenience, and if a modification of it such as Ruskin proposes is capable of affording pleasure to a considerable number of people, it would be ungenerous to refuse it. Only it will be necessary to provide some other distinguishing terms.

The True Moral

of the Glyn-Jones banquet was happily enforced by Mr. Carteighe in his effective speech on the occasion. The individual is of more importance than the organisation. That was the burden of Mr. Carteighe's message. I have never heard anything much more inspiring than Mr. Carteighe's speech at that dinner. The veteran with forty years of strenuous service to pharmacy behind him, and "still running" with unabated vigour, pointing to his younger colleague to illustrate an argument, not invented for the occasion, but which the ex-President has many times pressed home to suitable audiences, stirred all who heard him. The tribute was as honourable to the one worker as to the other.

Another Reflection

was suggested by the same speech. The guest of the evening had just told the company about his Bloomsbury examination thirteen years ago, when he passed, as Mr. Bottle informed him, "with not too much to spare." The feature of this incident which Mr. Carteighe took up was not the wide or narrow margin, but the fact that the successful candidate had straightway treated the event as the beginning, and not the completion of his real work. Yes; but suppose that an unlucky question or two had shifted that narrow margin to the other side? Suppose the discouraged candidate had had to come up twice or three times? It is not necessary to say that Mr. Glyn-Jones would have ultimately overcome such adverse circumstances even as many others have done, but who can tell with what loss of energy? We may come to know those who get through the wicket gate, but those who are choked in the Slough of Despond never come into our history at all.

Graduates in Grocery

are now definitely promised. The Manchester grocers have subscribed 500*l.*, and have established a "Manchester and Salford Grocery and Provision Trades Technical Education Society," which has arranged for courses of lectures on "Grocers' Commodities," on "The Laws affecting the Trade," and on "Bookkeeping." The fee for the winter course is 7*s.* 6*d.*, but the Society will contribute 5*s.* of this on behalf of the first hundred apprentices and assistants who offer themselves as students. Certificates and scholarships are also being arranged for. The promoters aim, says the Professor of Grocers' Commodities, at "the establishment of a society in relation to the grocery and provision trade on lines similar to the Pharmaceutical Society in relation to the chemists' and druggists' trade." Well, really; these are democratic days indeed. We can now realise how the old aristocracy of this nation must feel as they find themselves elbowed in their own halls by the millionaires of Manchester, Chicago, and Johannesburg.

The Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland

no longer smelleth the battle afar off with a warrior's joy. For two years its Council has been watching our struggle with the common foe with the sympathy which arises from the conviction that, if we win, our victory would "clear the air for Ireland." In the circumstances, however, "Bill-promoting at St. Stephen's has not much fascination "for the Irish President. Lowell's hero supported a similar policy. "She takin' resks an' findin' funds, an' we co-operationin'." It is a pity, for cordial union between the two Societies would more than double our force.

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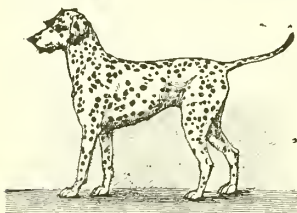
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Editorial Comments.

The Possessive Case.

We called attention in our issue of September 24 to the Inland Revenue regulation under which are made liable to medicine stamp-duty "scores of well-known domestic medicines, common to the whole trade, which are nobody's property and have never been proprietary, owing to the use of the possessive case, or (its equivalent) the surname in parentheses." We have been in correspondence with

the Board about the matter since the month of April, and have now arrived at a satisfactory issue. We then submitted four titles for the Board's consideration and received the following reply :

23,230S./1904.

Inland Revenue, Somerset House, London, W.C.
5th May, 1904.

SIR,—With reference to your letter of the 11th ultimo, I am directed by the Board of Inland Revenue to acquaint you that the titles "Stomachic Powder" (Gregory) and "Tonic Pills" (Blaud) would not be regarded as involving liability to Medicine Stamp Duty, but the titles "Rhubarb Pills" (Smith) and "Liver Pills" (Sir Andrew Clark) would render the preparations to which they relate liable to such duty.

I am Sir, your obedient Servant,

E. E. STOODLEY, Secretary.

The Editor, THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

Replying to this, we recalled the more important occasions upon which the Board have permitted such terms as "Rhubarb Pills (Smith)" and "Liver-pills (Sir Andrew Clark)"—viz., in correspondence with Messrs. J. B. Shillcock & Son, of Bromley, Kent, in 1881, and with Messrs. J. F. Macfarlan & Co., of Edinburgh, in 1887. We also called the Board's attention to the fact that the title "Liver-pills (Sir Andrew Clark)" is typical of a class which are not and never have been proprietary in the sense of the Medicine-stamp Acts, adding that at the time of Messrs. J. F. Macfarlan & Co.'s correspondence with the Board we had obtained the opinion of Sir Robert Finlay, K.C. (now Attorney-General), on the point, as follows :

I am of opinion that these pills are not liable to duty. "Blaud's Pills" is merely a descriptive term. It does not convey in common usage any idea of proprietary right, and I do not think that the duty is payable, though the label also bears the name of the compounder. My opinion rests on the view that, though in the original sense the words might convey an idea of proprietary right, yet in their current use they merely describe the article sold, just as, for instance, "Gregory's mixture."

Subsequently we also submitted to the Board a lozenge marked in this style—

COUGH-LOZENGE.

Smith & Co.

The Board took time to consider the matter, and ultimately sent us the following reply :

R.23230S./1904.

Inland Revenue, Somerset House, London, W.C.
11th August, 1904.

SIR,—With reference to your letter of the 6th May last, I am directed by the Board of Inland Revenue to acquaint you that although it appears to have been their practice in 1887 not to regard a name in brackets after the title of a medicine as constituting a claim to a proprietary right, yet since 1899 it has been their practice to regard a name in brackets as on the same footing as a name in the possessive case.

The Board hold that in either of these cases an ostensible claim to a proprietary right is set up, and in cases of well-known medicines in which no proprietary right is or has been in fact claimed, they have required that the claim ostensibly set up by the use of the possessive case should be rebutted, either by disclosing the formula or by indicating its source, before they have sanctioned their sale unstamped. The only exceptions to this rule are Gregory's Powder and Blaud's Pills, both of which are British Pharmacopoeia preparations, and of which the composition is a matter of common notoriety. If, however, you will furnish evidence that the preparations mentioned by you—viz., Rhubarb Pills (Smith), Liver Pills (Sir Andrew Clark), Hamilton's Pills, and Christison's Pills—are, in fact, well-known medicines, the composition of which is known to chemists generally, if not to the public, and that the formula is published in some recognised book of reference, the Board will consider the question whether they can sanction their sale unstamped, and under what conditions they can do so.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

E. E. STOODLEY, Secretary.

The Editor, THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

This letter was duly acknowledged, and a lengthy state-

ment was submitted to the Board, in the course of which we gave particulars of the origin of Liver-pills (Sir Andrew Clark), the formula for which was published in the "Lancet" and THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, and reprinted in "Pharmaceutical Formulas" since 1898. We also testified from personal knowledge that Christison's pills and Hamilton's pills are in common demand in certain parts of the country, as domestic medicines which have never been proprietary, and that the formulae have been published in "Pharmaceutical Formulas." We mentioned that these preparations are merely typical of many, and enclosed a list of some of those still in common demand whose formulae are in the above work. "Dobell's aperient" was in this list, and we gave particulars of the non-proprietary origin of this preparation as being typical of many. We have now received the following reply :

R.23230S./1904.

Inland Revenue, Somerset House, London, W.C.
11th October, 1904.

SIR,—I have laid before the Board of Inland Revenue your letter of the 23th ultimo, and with reference thereto I am directed to acquaint you that they are of opinion that such a description as "Rhubarb Pills (Smith)" or "Rhubarb Pills (Smith's)"—taking these as hypothetical illustrations—imply *prima facie* either a proprietary interest in [? or] a claim to some "occult secret or art" in the preparation of the remedy described, and therefore that, in the absence of proof to the contrary, the description would render the remedy liable to duty.

Where, however, proof should be produced that the name included in the description carried with it no claim either to exclusive right of sale or to exclusive knowledge, the Board would be prepared to recognise the remedy as not liable to duty.

Following this principle, the Board are now prepared on the evidence which you have been good enough to lay before them, to pronounce free from liability the following medicines :

- (1) Liver Pills (Sir Andrew Clark).
- (2) Hamilton's Pills.
- (3) Christison's Pills.
- (4) Dobell's Aperient.

They will moreover be ready to treat in the same way other remedies in respect of which they can be afforded equally satisfactory evidence of the absence of any claim to proprietary title or to exclusive knowledge of the composition.

In regard to this latter condition, the Board consider that the formula for compounding should be found in one or other of the works of reference which they have agreed to regard as authorities for well-known and admitted remedies.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

E. E. STOODLEY, Secretary.

The Editor, THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST,
42 Cannon Street, E.C.

This we consider a satisfactory issue of the correspondence, especially as the letter lays down the principles on which other medicines of the same kind may be pronounced free of liability. Early this year Mr. C. F. Henry, of Edinburgh, submitted several labels to the Board, among them three worded as follows :

Dr. Hamilton's Pills.

Composed of extracts of colocynth and henbane,
1 or 2 for a dose.

Dr. Thomson's Antibilious Pills.

Composed of aloes and mastic, 1 or 2 for a dose.

Professor Christison's Pills.

Composed of colocynth, aloes, and scammony, 1, 2,
or 3 for a dose.

All these were marked "Liable to duty," showing that liability was due to the use of the possessive case. The Board are now satisfied from the evidence which we have submitted that Christison's pills and Hamilton's pills are not proprietary, and they offer to put other remedies in the same category on "equally satisfactory evidence." We asked the trade in our issue of September 24 to help us

in the latter regard, but the response is disappointing. Now that we have secured for the trade a pronouncement of real value to them and the public, it may, perhaps, be realised that something has been missed by not responding more quickly to our invitation of September 24. We are prepared to go on with this matter, so far as other domestic medicines are concerned, if our readers help us in getting together the requisite evidence to prove that popular medicines named after their originators have never been proprietary.

The Bromide-market.

THOSE who read our note on bromides last week under the Trade Report section would have been quite prepared for the reduction which took place on the day after publication, when the English and Continental makers announced a decline of 8½d. per lb. on bromide of potassium and 8d. per lb. on ammonium and sodium bromides. There is still an uncertainty about the market, however, and in several quarters doubt is expressed as to whether the bottom has been reached. Vague reports are also current to the effect that there are dissensions among the producers of bromine in Germany which prevent the agents and makers here being free sellers. The bromide-market has been in an unsettled condition for more than eighteen months, so that the substantial reduction now announced ought to give the requisite confidence to buyers, as values are placed on a business footing. A considerable amount of business has been lost to this market owing to the dilatoriness of the German syndicate (who control the supplies of bromine) in not taking cognisance of the serious nature of the American competition and the strong representations made from this side in regard to it. The present hostilities commenced about the end of 1902, when everybody expected a substantial reduction that never came off, the German syndicate refusing to reduce the price of bromine, thus leaving the field to the American makers. As it is, American bromide of potassium has been shipped to this country in fairly moderate quantities, and large consumers have for some months past amply filled their wants at quite 6d. per lb. under the convention price. The latest development in the situation is a proposition from one of the American agents here, who states that he is prepared to send out orders to the United States at 1s. per lb. net for twenty-case lots, so that there is every prospect of a continuance of the struggle. On the other hand, we hear that the price quoted from the United States this week is 30c. per lb., so that no alteration has yet been made by the American makers.

Aconitine Formulæ.

A PAPER from the Marburg Laboratory, by Dr. H. Schulze, on the chemistry of aconitine appears in the current issue of the "Apotheker Zeitung" (1904, 783). After drawing attention to the fact that Ehrenberg and Purfurst first found acetic acid to be one of the products of hydrolysis of the alkaloid, and that Freund and Beck showed that aconitine is benzoyl-acetyl-aconine—a fact afterwards confirmed by Dunstan—the author gives a very elaborate series of analyses of the base and its salts which go some way towards settling the formula of the alkaloid. Great care was used in selecting the material for investigation. A sample of aconitine manufactured from *Aconitum Napellus* by Merck was found to melt at 195° C. On recrystallisation from methyl alcohol it melted at 197°, and this figure was not further altered by repeated crystallisations. Aconite tubers were obtained from Cæsar and Loretz, and the

author prepared aconitine from them. After recrystallisation this preparation was found to melt at 197° C. A portion of this preparation was converted into its hydrobromide, and from this the base was re-prepared by precipitation with soda. It was found to melt at 197°-193° C., and by mixing equal parts of this and of Merck's recrystallised alkaloid, no depression of the melting-point was observed.

On these purified alkaloids ten combustions were made, yielding the following figures:

	Carbon.	Hydrogen.		Carbon.	Hydrogen.
1.	62.86	7.13	6.	63.12	7.37
2.	62.84	7.11	7.	63.07	7.10
3.	62.85	7.04	8.	63.30	7.48
4.	63.20	7.05	9.	63.19	7.39
5.	62.86	7.13	10.	63.19	7.40

A preparation made by Dr. E. Schmidt in 1883 melted at 195°-196° C., and yielded the following figures:

Carbon	...	63.15	63.25	62.99 per cent.
Hydrogen	...	7.09	7.12	7.10

The formula proposed by Dunstan was $C_{31}H_{15}NO_{12}$, whilst Freund and Beck proposed $C_{31}H_{17}NO_{11}$. Dunstan's formula requires C=61.17 and H=7.0 per cent., and Freund and Beck's requires C=63.22 and H=7.34 per cent. The figures now obtained agree equally well with Freund's formula or with one differing from it by two atoms of hydrogen, $C_{31}H_{13}NO_{11}$. This requires C=63.41 and H=7.05 per cent. The author admits that further researches on aconine are necessary before it can be decided which of these formulæ is correct, but he claims that Dunstan's is certainly wrong.

A hydrobromide was prepared by neutralising a solution of the alkaloid with dilute hydrobromic acid. The formula $C_{31}H_{15}NO_{11}Br + 2\frac{1}{2}H_2O$ requires 5.85 per cent. of water, as against 5.9 per cent. actually found. The dry salt gave 10.92 per cent. of bromine and the following carbon and hydrogen results, which are compared with the three formulæ:

	C per cent.	H per cent.	Br per cent.
Found	55.64, 55.87, 55.84	6.99, 6.56, 6.70	10.12
$C_{31}H_{15}NO_{12}HBr$ (Dunstan)	54.37	6.6	10.8
$C_{31}H_{17}NO_{11}HBr$ (Freund)	56.17	6.65	11.01
$C_{31}H_{13}NO_{11}HBr$	56.33	6.40	11.4

The alpha-modification of the gold-chloride salt described by Dunstan and Jowett also gave results agreeing with Freund's formula, and it contained, as stated by Freund and Beck, three molecules of H_2O , evaporating slowly at 115°-120°. The following are the figures:

	C	H	Au
Found	41.04, 41.32, 41.37	5.25, 5.19, 4.97	19.91, 20.05, 20.06
Dunstan's formula	40.11	4.69	19.97
Freund's formula	41.40	4.90	20.01
$C_{31}H_{15}NO_{11}$	41.49	4.71	20.05

Aconine hydrochloride was also prepared, and a similar set of analytical comparisons is as follows:

	C	H	Cl
Found	56.02, 56.02, 56.18, 56.05	7.68, 7.83, 7.91, 7.89	6.56
Dunstan's	53.55	7.49	6.59
Freund's	55.99	7.90	6.62
$C_{31}H_{15}NO_3HCl$	56.20	7.55	6.64

These results in the main are against Dunstan's formulæ, and make it necessary that Dr. Schulze's examination

of aconine should be continued, as it is only by an examination of that body that the formula of aconitine can be definitely fixed.

The Law of Anti-cutting.

THE official Law Reports for October give a full report of the appeal in the case of *McGruther v. Pitcher* to which we referred in a recent issue of the *C. & D.* The law on the subject of conditions of sale, whereby reselling prices are fixed for proprietary articles by means other than direct agreement between buyer and seller, is contained in the judgments pronounced in this case by Lords Justices Vaughan Williams, Romer, and Cozens-Hardy. The defendant purchased patent rubber heel-pads from a wholesale house, and not from the plaintiffs themselves. On the inside of the lid of each box containing the pads was printed in large type the following conditions of sale:

These revolving heel-pads, whether bought directly from us or from any dealer, are sold on the express agreement that the same shall not be retailed at less than the following prices, viz.:

Ladies', 10*d.* per pair
Gents', 1*s.* per pair

and shall not be resold except subject to these conditions as a term of sale.

The acceptance of the goods by any purchaser will be deemed to be an acknowledgment that they are sold to him on these conditions and on these conditions only, and that he agrees with the vendors (as our agents in this respect) to be bound by the same. These revolving heel-pads are supplied to a dealer on the above express agreement, and also on the additional terms that these conditions shall remain attached to every package sold wholesale, and shall form part of the terms upon which every such dealer resells every such package.

In the court below Mr. Justice Farwell granted an injunction, but limited its duration to the period of the continuance of the patent. The Appeal Court was unanimous in reversing that decision. They say in effect—(1) that this was not an action, in form or in fact, by a patentee claiming an injunction to restrain an infringement of his patent, though Mr. Justice Cozens-Hardy says that if it had been such a case, and the defendant had pleaded a licence, it might have been open to the plaintiffs to reply that it was only a limited licence, and that defendants had infringed the patent-rights by going outside that licence; (2) that conditions cannot be attached to goods so as to bind all purchasers who buy with notice of such conditions; (3) that there was no contract between *McGruther* and *Pitcher*, and that *McGruther* could not sue upon the contract, if any, which had been made between the wholesale house and *Pitcher*. As the law stands it seems to be that reselling prices may be imposed by a vendor upon a purchaser, but to do so there must be a direct contract, and only parties to that contract can sue.

Discretionary Powers in Dispensing.

This is the title of an editorial article in the "*Lancet*" last week, based upon the recent Sale of Food and Drugs Acts prosecutions in Birmingham. Our contemporary makes rather much of these cases. There is no evidence that inaccurate dispensing is general among dispensing chemists. We maintain that it is quite the opposite, and the experience of prescribers, in districts where physicians write prescriptions and pharmacists dispense them, is the same. The "*Lancet*" says:

The *entente cordiale* between prescriber and dispenser can only be maintained when the former is sure that his intentions will be implicitly followed, unless it is necessary to refer to him in the face of presumably obvious error.

This we agree with, and the *entente cordiale* exists between thousands of physicians and pharmacists in this country.

It cannot exist between physicians who simultaneously act as chemists and chemists who encroach on the medical man's territory, and is not encouraged by suggestions that chemists are untrustworthy. This is where such comments as our contemporary's tend to err.

Is this Infamous Conduct?

A correspondent informs us that when in a provincial town the other day, and travelling on an electric car, the conductor suddenly called out "Dr. Squill's house"—naming a medical practitioner in the front of whose house the car stopped. Our correspondent suggests that this form of advertisement might be adopted by chemists. We daresay it would be quite in accordance with pharmaceutical etiquette to do so, but we pity the enterprising "M.D. with an extensive practice" if the Medical Defence Union get hold of him, and if the General Medical Council is called upon to adjudicate upon such a glaring but unprovided-for form of advertisement.

American Chemical-manufacturers.

Sir William Ramsay's criticism of American chemical-manufacturers was somewhat resented by them at first, but the "*New York Times*" says that "on calmer consideration they admitted it was true." Interviews with representatives of several of their manufacturers are given, and the gist of them is that chemical-industry is young in the United States, and labour dearer than in Germany. Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co.'s local manager said:

American manufacturers want quicker results than the German. If we develop an idea along certain lines, and find it does not pan out, we drop it and try something else. The Germans would stick to the idea and develop it to its logical results, regardless of profit. It is in persistency that they are ahead of us. We have experimented with artificial camphor over here, and are still experimenting with it. But as we cannot get rid of its turpentine smell, the product is not valuable for commercial purposes. . . . Sometimes it is necessary to sink a ship to drive the rats from her. One of our chemists was told to experiment with a vaseline that would mean sure death to the rats. He got the results he was told to get. I don't know that the discovery has any commercial value, I mention the incident to show that American manufacturers are making experiments.

A member of the firm of Roessler & Hasslacher thought Sir William's criticism applied more to English manufacturers than to Americans. "The Englishman," he said, "is as self-sufficient in chemical-manufactures as he is in other lines of industry. If you do not like things done in his way, you may go elsewhere. He is not going to change the habits of a lifetime to please you."

Indian Beeswax.

Mr. David Hooper, F.I.C., F.C.S., has contributed an interesting and exhaustive account of the sources, preparation, trade, and composition of the beeswax of British India to the "*Agricultural Ledger*" (1904, No. 7). In his contribution Mr. Hooper does not confine himself to the subject of beeswax only, but gives a minute description of the insects that make it. These are the *Apis dorsata*, or hill bee, the *Apis indica* or tree bee, the *Apis florea* or flower bee, and the *Melipona* (trigona), or mosquito or dammar bee. Full details are given of the habitats of each kind of bee, their methods of building and storing their combs, the quantities of honey their combs usually produce, the manner in which the honey is extracted by the natives, and the commercial value of the honey and wax obtained from the combs. In the section headed "Preparation of the Wax," the different ways of washing and clarifying it are dealt with. Besides this, there are also artificial colouring, bleaching, and moulding employed for making the article commercially attractive, which the writer describes, not forgetting to touch upon the "systematic adulteration" practised by those who prepare beeswax for

the local Indian markets. The section denominated "Centres of Trade" is a very long one, and is exceptionally interesting from a commercial point of view. As bees are almost ubiquitous in India, and their products valuable in the estimation of all classes of the natives as well as of Europeans, so the qualities, prices, weights, seasons of collection, qualities of wax or honey yielded per comb in different localities, and other similar particulars, occupy many pages of the pamphlet in the telling. The uses of wax, its chemical composition, with tables of analyses of the wax produced by each species of bees, are other parts of this excellent number of the "Agricultural Ledger."

Deaths.

CARRUTHERS.—At Egmore, Madras, on September 19, from enteric fever, Minnie, the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel H. St. Clare Carruthers, I.M.S., medical store-keeper to the Government of Madras.

CHATTAWAY.—At St. Fiacre, Cole Park, Twickenham, on October 7, Mr. William Chattaway, F.I.C., pharmaceutical chemist, superintendent of the Apothecaries' Hall, aged forty-three. Mr. Chattaway was one of our most cultured pharmacists, and his unexpected death, following upon an operation for appendicitis, has grieved a large circle of friends. He was never a robust man—indeed, he had about him that delicacy of frame associated with keen intellect and refined thought which win for some the affection of their fellows. Mr. Chattaway commenced his pharmaceutical career in 1877 with Mr. Joseph Young, pharmaceutical chemist, Leicester, where he had as fellow-apprentice Mr. F. C. Mason (now of Messrs Grimault et Cie., Paris), who afterwards became his brother-in-law.



Mr. Young's pharmacy is excellent training-ground, for besides pharmaceutical work Mr. Young has an extensive practice as an analyst, and Mr. Chattaway was one of several who had their analytical tastes fostered under his influence. After leaving Leicester Mr. Chattaway spent some time in Paris, where he made the acquaintance of Chevreul, the centenary chemist, to whom we owe the basis of our knowledge of the fats. The young man and the aged became

close friends, and kept in touch with each other until the centenarian's death. Mr. Chattaway passed the Minor examination in 1883. Subsequently he studied at Luff & Woodland's school for the Major, Mr. J. E. Saul (of Savory & Moore, Limited) and Mr. William Baxter (of Bromley) being his closest associates there. He passed the Major in 1885, and immediately went to Sheffield as senior assistant to the late Mr. Alfred H. Allen, F.I.C., F.C.S., with whom he was associated for seven years, latterly as a partner in a branch laboratory which Mr. Allen had opened in Leadenhall Street, London. During this period Mr. Chattaway did a lot of good work, publishing, in conjunction with Mr. Allen, many papers on distilled spirits and drugs. He also assisted Mr. Allen in the production of his "Commercial Organic Analysis." The London venture was not advantageous to Mr. Chattaway, and towards the end of 1892 he had a private laboratory of his own in the City. When the late Mr. R. H. Davies, superintendent of the Apothecaries' Hall, was laid aside with phthisis in February, 1893, Mr. Chattaway carried on his work, and after Mr. Davies's death, in November of the same year, Mr. Chattaway was appointed his successor. There he worked quietly, but efficiently, and was highly respected by the Master and Wardens of

the Company as well as by their staff. He was public analyst for Hammersmith and Colchester, and apart from chemistry and pharmacy had several interests. For example, he was an ardent photographer, and had done some excellent work on colour-photography. He was a member of the Council of the Röntgen Society, the Society of Public Analysts, the Therapeutical Society (of which he was a founder), and a member of the Royal Institution. When Dr. John Attfield, F.R.S., gave up his connection with the General Medical Council as reporter on the British Pharmacopœia, and the work of preparing a "digest of researches and criticisms" was declined by Bloomsbury Square, the General Medical Council resumed the association with the Society of Apothecaries which was broken at Mr. Robert Warington's death, and Mr. Chattaway prepared a non-critical digest for the years 1899 to 1902. This promised to be the most important work of his life. Mr. Chattaway is survived by his wife and two quite young children. The funeral at Twickenham Cemetery on Tuesday was largely attended by his personal and scientific friends, among whom were Sir Hugh Beevor, from the Society of Apothecaries, Mr. Richard Bremridge, Mr. W. B. Bloxam, of the Royal Institution, Mr. E. J. Bevan, Mr. F. C. Mason, Mr. Martin Priest, Mr. C. G. Moore, Dr. Bernard Dyer, Dr. J. A. Voelcker, Mr. H. E. Stevenson, and Mr. F. C. J. Bird.

COOPER.—At Nayland, on September 2, Mr. George Thomas Cooper, pharmaceutical chemist, formerly of Queen's Road, Peckham, S.E., aged forty.

DINGLE.—Recently, Mr. W. Dingle, formerly in business as a chemist at Callington, aged eighty-eight. Mr. Dingle was a Justice of the Peace, a leading Wesleyan, and had held the offices of portreeve and guardian of the poor.

HATRICK.—At The Vernons, Chiswick, W., on October 9, Mr. James Lindsay Hatrick, youngest son of William Lindsay and Mary Robb Hatrick, of Paisley, aged fifty-six. Mr. Hatrick was principal of the business of James L. Hatrick & Co. (Limited), 70 St. John Street, E.C., and when travelling was on Monday, October 3, seized with illness at Winchester. Appendicitis was diagnosed, and Mr. Hatrick was brought home under the charge of his son, Dr. C. Dainty Hatrick, of New Barnet. Dr. Rose Bradford was called in consultation, but it was impossible to operate owing to diabetic complication, and although Mr. Hatrick rallied somewhat the end came suddenly on Sunday. He was son of the senior founder of W. & R. Hatrick, wholesale druggists, Glasgow, and he received his early training in pharmacy under the late Mr. John McMillan, afterwards entering the wholesale business and travelling in Scotland for W. & R. Hatrick for many years. He severed his connection with the firm in 1889, and removed to London, establishing a business in pharmaceutical and surgical appliances and specialities, which was converted into a limited company a few years ago. Latterly he had associated with him one of his sons, who had practically taken over the management owing to his father's poor health. Mrs. Hatrick survives her husband. The funeral took place at Finchley on Thursday.

HINDLE.—At Gorleston last week Mr. John Hindle, chemist, High Street, aged fifty. Mr. Hindle was a well-known amateur photographer.

JONES.—At Guy's Hospital, S.E., on October 9, Mr. William Bodwin Jones, chemist and druggist, of 66 Kennington Park Road, S.E. Mr. Jones recently returned from a holiday not feeling well, and his medical adviser ordered him to go into the hospital, where an operation for appendicitis was performed, but by Friday his condition became critical, and in spite of all efforts he succumbed on Sunday evening. Mr. Jones was a student at the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy, and passed the Minor examination in 1898. Two years ago he purchased the pharmacy where Mr. Freeman, of chlorodyne fame, was in business; this he had carried on with a fair measure of success. He is survived by Mrs. Jones and one child.

OLDFIELD.—At Bloemfontein, Orange River Colony, on September 16, Mr. Frank Oldfield, an old and respected inhabitant. Mr. Oldfield, who was born in Norfolk, was brought up to the drug-trade and after completing a course at Bloomsbury Square passed the Major examination. He

went out to South Africa some years ago, and at the time of his death was in business as a forwarding, produce, and general agent, and in addition was financially interested in a number of undertakings in the city. His health was always delicate, and of late years he had been obliged to live a rather retired life, but that did not prevent him taking an active part in the general affairs of the town. For several years he was a member of the Town Council, and he was also a member of the Rising Star Lodge, 1022 (E.C.). A staunch churchman and a generous supporter of the cathedral, he did not limit his charity to his own denomination, but was ever ready to give a helping hand to any deserving cause, and his death is a great loss to the community of Bloemfontein.

PRIOR.—Suddenly, at Oxford, on October 8, Mr. George Thomas Prior, pharmaceutical chemist. Mr. Prior, who until two years ago enjoyed the best of health, and was able in spite of his advancing years to take active exercise on his bicycle, had recently been suffering from heart-trouble. He had always taken a keen interest in outdoor sports, and on Saturday, notwithstanding the cold weather, witnessed a football match. At the conclusion of the game he was taken suddenly ill on the Abingdon Road, and expired almost immediately. He had been under the care of Dr. Collier, who certified that death was due to syncope, and therefore no coroner's inquiry was considered necessary. Mr. Prior was a native of Oxford. He was educated at the University College, London. He was appointed Medical Dispenser at Oxford in 1872, and held the appointment until his retirement a few years ago. Mr. Prior was a well-known member of the Volunteer Corps, and obtained the long-service medal. He achieved considerable success as a marksman, and won a great number of prizes in shooting competitions. As testifying the esteem in which he was held by the citizens, two public presentations were made to him. He was a prominent Freemason, and held the office of Past Grand Master of the Alfred Lodge. His wife predeceased him in 1887; he leaves one son. The funeral took place at Holywell Cemetery on October 11.

SHATTOCK.—At Taunton, on September 19, Mr. John Shattock, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-seven.

SMITH.—At Queen's Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on October 7, Mr. Thomas James Smith, chemist, aged sixty-six. Mr. Smith served his apprenticeship with the late John Ismay in the Sandhill about 1853. He was in business on the Quayside, and afterwards in Shield Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, for a number of years, and retired on a competency. Being of an active disposition, however, he of late years returned to the staff of Messrs. John Ismay & Sons, City Road, and was at business up to the day previous to his death. A widow, four daughters, and one son survive him.

Business Changes.

MR. W. SHELTON, chemist and druggist, formerly of Leicester, has purchased the business at 2 Wheelock Street, Middlewich, Cheshire, lately belonging to Mr. Frederick H. Hulme, chemist and druggist.

The business of manufacturing glass for medical, chemical, and scientific purposes established by Mr. D. Moss in 1831, and carried on at Aldersgate Street, Beech Street, Barbican, and Whitecross Street, has been removed to 56 Little Britain, E.C.

Personalities.

MR. F. HARWOOD LESCHER, F.C.S., sailed last week for New York on a trip to Canada and the United States.

MR. W. HAYTHORNTHWAITHE, chemist and druggist, has been appointed one of the foundation managers of Docking Schools.

MR. F. M. FISK, European manager for Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., sails from New York by the *Cedric* on October 14.

MR. E. A. BROTHERTON, M.P., chemical manufacturer, has been invited to retain the Mayoralty of Wakefield for another year.

MR. F. A. WILLCOCK, chemist, Victoria Street, Wolverhampton, is a candidate for election to Wolverhampton Town Council.

MR. WILLIAM MAIR, F.C.S., of Messrs. Fletcher, Fletcher & Co. (Limited), has returned from his trip to the United States.

"THE BOOK OF ANGELUS DRAYTON," the latest production of that talented novelist, Mrs. Fred Reynolds, will be published on November 5.

COUNCILLOR WOOLLEY, Managing Director of Woolley's (Limited), sails this week by the *Umbria* from Liverpool for a business trip to New York.

MR. R. A. ROBINSON, J.P., has been elected by the London County Council as their representative on the governing body of the Brompton Higher Grade Schools.

MR. HARRY KEMP, chemist, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, is seeking election on the Manchester City Council as a Progressive candidate for the new Charlton ward.

MESSRS. JOHN BEDDARD AND WILLIAM BUDDLES, trading as John Beddard, 46 Churton Street, Belgrave Road, S.W., have received a Royal Warrant of appointment as chemists to King Edward VII.

MR. EDWARD EVANS, SEN., of Bronwyfla, Wrexham, after being confined to his room since April last by a severe illness, was able to be downstairs for a short time on Friday last. Considering his great age (he is now in his eighty-ninth year), Mr. Evans is remarkably bright and well.

Trade Notes.

PRICE'S PATENT CANDLE COMPANY (LIMITED) have received the Grand Prize of the St. Louis Exposition for their candles, night-lights, toilet soaps and glycerin.

IN Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome and Co.'s advertisement in our issue of October 1, page 53, the word "Tabloid" appears as "Tablo." This was due solely to an accident in printing, which we regret.

ENGLISH FILM COMPETITION.—In sending us the list of prize-winners in the September competition Messrs. Houghtons (Limited), 88 and 89 High Holborn, W.C., inform us that the current month, October, closes the competition for the present. Photographic chemists should keep this in mind.

MR. JAY MACK, who is advertising in our Supplement, is a retail drug-trade expert who has practical experience of modern methods of business, and has embarked on a career which has recently in the United States become a distinct profession under the title of "Business Doctor." Mr. Jay Mack proposes to assist chemists in improving their businesses by getting better returns from over-stocked shops, modernising fittings, and generally showing how business can be improved. He takes payment by results. There is room for such advice in the drug-trade.

SOUTHALL'S HALF-YEARLY PRICES CURRENT.—This first issue of a composite catalogue by Messrs. Southall Brothers & Barclay (Limited), Birmingham, reflects credit on the compilers and the private printing-press of the house. It is a quarto of 372 pages, divided into four sections, each printed on a distinct tint of paper. The first section is devoted to drugs, chemicals, pharmaceutical preparations, etc., the items of the price-list being printed in the clear type which we referred to some time ago. About fifty pages are devoted to this list, and these are followed by forty-six pages concerning Southall pharmaceutical specialities, including a useful table of standardised tincture-factors, particulars and prices of materia-medica cabinets, surgical dressings, sanitary towels, capsules, compressed tablets, and chemical and scientific apparatus. Then follows a forty-eight page price-list of coated pills, suppositories, etc., and after it 120 pages of an illustrated list of Southall's counter-specialities and perfumery. The book is completed with an illustrated list of druggists' and surgeons' sundries and implements extending to ninety-two pages, and eight pages of an index. The whole production is characterised by clear printing, good description, and adequate illustration where required. It should be valuable for reference; and the firm will send a copy to any chemist in business who writes to them for it.

Society of Chemical Industry.

Tour of the United States.

(From our own Representative.)

FRIDAY morning (September 23) of the second week of the tour saw the "industrious chemists"

IN CHICAGO,

where they remained till the Sunday evening. The journey had been made overnight from St. Louis in the special train. The Executive Committee acting for the Chicago members of the Society were Dr. T. B. Wagner, General Superintendent of the Corn Products Company; Dr. J. A. Wesener, Chemist to the Columbus Medical (Research) Laboratory; Mr. E. C. Calm (M. Calm Brothers' Company, chemical-works); Mr. J. Bauer, chemist to the Liquid Carbonic Company; and Mr. W. A. Converse, chemist to the Dearborn Drug and Chemical Company, Secretary; while the Reception Committee was strengthened by the Mayor and Mrs. Harrison, Prince and Princess Engalitcheff, Count and Countess Razwadowski, judges, doctors, and many notabilities of the vigorous Western capital. The entertainment of the ladies was looked after by a committee presided over by Mrs. Theodore Brentano, wife of one of the local judges. A handsome specially-written souvenir guide-book to the city was presented to each guest. The headquarters were the Auditorium Hotel, on the lake front. Visits were organised to the works of the Liquid Carbonic Company, where the manufacture of soda-fountains and the cutting and polishing of onyx brought from Mexico and California were seen in operation; to the laboratories of the Dearborn Company, almost entirely devoted to water-analysis; and to the Matthiessen-Hegler Zinc-works. It was not possible to include, as had been intended, visits to the Standard Oil Company at Whiting, Indiana, or to the Pullman Car-works. Some of the members were greatly interested in a visit to the Elgin Watch Company's factory. There were other visits and a trip on the river, but the outstanding engagement, which was arranged so that nobody could miss it, was the visit to the Union Stockyards. On arrival there an excellent luncheon was tendered by Messrs. Swift & Co., one of the four companies operating that colossal trust, which includes Messrs. Armour & Co., at whose laboratories all the members of the scientific staff turned out, as well as many heads of other departments, to show the visitors around. The by-products of slaughtering (the details of which I have no desire to go into) are said to be the only source of profit. Armour's alone, of the four, specialise in the therapeutic department—pepsin, pancreatin, bone-marrow preparations, thymus, thyroids, parotid substances and suprarenal capsules are the leading results, but soap and glycerin are other great productions of the stockyards. Others of the by-products are glue and gelatine, bone for tooth-brush handles, hoofs for cyanide-manufacture, anhydrous ammonia, neatsfoot oil, isinglass, curled hair; and all the rest goes as fertiliser.

In the course of the perambulation of the four separate establishments each of the party had been presented by Messrs. Armour with a set of six engravings and a bottle of pepsin tablets; by Messrs. Swift with a box of three tablets of violet soap, and by each of the other two houses (Messrs. Libby McNeill & Libby, and Messrs. Nelson, Morris & Co.) with a pot of extract of meat.

A fashionable reception was given on Friday evening in the banquet-hall of the Auditorium, at which were present prominent citizens and, among others, Dr. J. B. Murphy, the noted Chicago surgeon and inventor of the Murphy button; Dr. W. A. Evans, pathologist to the Medical Research Laboratory; and Dr. F. B. Turk. On Saturday evening a concert was given by Sousa's Band in the Auditorium Theatre, the whole of the boxes in two tiers being reserved; and in the same place on Sunday a special sermon was preached by arrangement of the committee.

The fine afternoon of Sunday was occupied with a drive through the park system of the city, the objective being the University of Chicago, where several of the Professors showed groups of the visitors their well-equipped laboratories—Professor Nef in the Chemistry Department, and

in the Physics Laboratory Professor Michaelson demonstrated with his echelon spectroscope. It was he who made the light-wave the standard of length. A return drive to the hotel and expressions of thanks concluded what was certainly the most heartily enjoyable sojourn of the whole tour.

Monday of the third week was spent

IN DETROIT,

where the arrangements were in the entire charge of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., whose European manager, Mr. F. M. Fisk, about a year ago invited the Society to visit the city. It was no light undertaking to provide entertainment and refreshment for a hundred guests for every moment of the long day between the arrival of the special train at seven in the morning and its departure about midnight. Detroit is one of the "show" cities of the Union: its hospitality is notable, and particularly that of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. The compliment paid by the firm to the Society eclipsed in its completeness any that had been offered outside of New York. Special trolley-cars were in waiting at the train to convey the party to Russell House, the best hotel in the city, opposite the City Hall, which displayed a civic "Welcome to the European Society of Chemical Industry." Here breakfast was served, and the company were then conveyed in reserved tramcars to view the factory, where they were received by Mr. E. G. Swift, general manager; Mr. J. C. Spratt, business manager; Mr. Ryan, chief of the manufacturing department; Mr. F. M. Fisk, London; and others of the directors. Groups of ten were entrusted to as many guides—all heads of departments—and shown round systematically. More general interest seemed to be centred in this visit than in any one of the industrial concerns which had so far been visited: there was something to interest everybody, and the three hours occupied by the tour was much less than is ordinarily devoted to the edification of visitors. Beautifully situated on the river front, with plenty of space and well-kept lawns, the position of the works is ideal. Just across the river is Canada, and the firm's works at Walkerville, Ontario, are clearly in view. Few concerns are so happily placed that they can surmount the tariff barrier and yet keep their factories in both territories so well in touch. Little did the founders dream how well they planted forty years ago. They could not well have happened on a spot nearer the centre of the world. Pleasing special displays had been made in some of the departments, particularly in that of crude drugs, where nice little blocks of sandalwood were presented. Each visitor had already acquired a tube of Euthymol tooth-paste.

The tour of the buildings embraced the pill, globule, and capsule departments; tablet, tablet-trituration, tablet-coating and hypodermic-tablet rooms; granular effervescent salts; lozenge-making; digestive ferments; milling and general pharmaceutical departments and the up-to-date electric-power and compressed-air plant; also the glass-drawing room (vaccine points, serum-bulbs, and hypodermic tubes), paper-box making, printing and bindery, and stock and shipping rooms. A smart exhibition of fire-drill, and another on the river by the City fire-boat (throwing 5,000 gallons of water a minute), preceded a visit to the scientific and biologic departments, which were made a special feature. In the Scientific Building, of which Dr. McClinck and Dr. Houghton are directors, were shown the analytical department and that of experimental medicine. Here also much interest was displayed in viewing, through the glass partitions of the aseptic workrooms, the white-robed operatives engaged in the preparation, filtering, and finishing of serums, and in the popular demonstrations and explanations that were given by clever young members of the staff. Lastly, the biological stables, the vaccine-propagating rooms, operating-room, guinea-pig loft, and dog and rabbit cages were passed through, and a final successful demonstration given in the horse-operating room by Dr. Dunkley, the firm's veterinarian. One horse was injected with the toxin and another brought in to show the mode of drawing off the blood into sterilised tubes.

Thereafter luncheon was provided at the Russell House, when a graceful and eloquent tribute (the best speech of the whole tour) was paid to both hosts and guests by the

Mayor (the Hon. William Mayberry). The afternoon was passed in a drive, in four-in-hand tally-ho coaches, through the boulevards and suburbs of the city, to Belle Isle, an island park of great beauty. The day's splendid hospitality concluded with a dinner at the Russell House, at which there were present the chief officers of the company and about fifty principal members of the staff, making a total of 160. Supporting Mr. Swift, Mr. Ryan, and Mr. Spratt at the hosts' table were Sir William Ramsay; Professor Erdmann, of Charlottenburg; Professor A. B. Prescott and Professor Campbell, of the University of Michigan; Professor Virgil Coblenz, New York; Mr. Thomas Tyrer, Mr. Eustace Carey, and Dr. Lewkowitsch, all of whom contributed to the lengthy toast-list which followed, under the guidance of Mr. Ryan (a former lecturer on pharmacy in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy), who was toast-master. All the speakers congratulated the firm on the organisation and the extent of all they had been shown that day. Professor Erdmann made a nice point, speaking in German; it was that as in China it is a compliment to say to a lady of forty that she looks like seventy, so he could say the business of their hosts looked as strong as if it were the growth of a hundred years instead of forty. Mr. Ryan, bringing what was a most successful banquet to a conclusion, said that the open door is one of the principles of the house. That their aim is towards the enlightenment of the world and the alleviation of suffering humanity was evidenced in the fact that they have spent \$200,000 on research-work alone, such is their faith in science allied with industry. Mention should not be omitted of a souvenir gift-book descriptive of Detroit, also presented by the house.

NIAGARA AND BUFFALO.

Most of Tuesday was spent at Niagara Falls, which were reached after an all-night journey from Detroit. The strong Local Committee consisted chiefly of chemists to the many electro-chemical industries which now cluster round the Falls, and of the technical chemists of Buffalo, and included Messrs. Charles E. Acker, of the Acker Process Company (electrolytic alkali) (Chairman), Edward G. Acheson (International Acheson Graphite Company), F. M. Becket (Niagara Research Laboratory), R. M. Hill (City chemist of Buffalo), John D. Larkin (soap manufacturer), R. R. Lovejoy (Atmospheric Products Company, producing nitric acid direct from air), Roswell Park (leading surgeon of Buffalo), Lee H. Smith (leaving physician of Buffalo), E. B. Stevens (The Wood Products Company—wood alcohol, acetone, etc.), B. F. Thurston (Castner Electrolytic Alkali Company), F. J. Tone (Union Carbide Company, which controls calcium-carbide manufacture in the U.S.), and others; while a Toronto committee representing the Canadian Section of the Society and including Professor W. R. Lang (formerly of Glasgow), conveyed a formal invitation to hold the annual meeting in the Dominion in the near future. This was at a luncheon provided at the new Refectory opposite the Falls, on the Canadian side. During the afternoon the invitation was accepted to visit the two great power-houses of the Niagara Falls Power Company, producing a total of 100,000 electrical horse-power from water taken from the Niagara River, a mile above the falls on the American side. All of this is sold (at rates ranging from 4*l.* per horse-power to a consumer of 1,000 horse-power to 5*l.* per horse-power to a consumer of 50 horse-power) to some hundred or more industrial concerns in the town of Niagara and in Buffalo, Tonawanda, and Lockport, and a great allied company will duplicate the scheme on the Canadian side. On Wednesday morning were visited also the power-house of the Niagara Falls Hydraulic Power and Manufacturing Company, which operates a railway of 360 miles and a tramway running round the gorge, all the trolley-lines in the district, all the street-lighting, and supplies the power to the chief electrolytic plants: the output here is about to be increased to a total of 100,000 horse-power. This power snatched from Nature does not alter the cataract itself more than as a wineglassful of water out of a bucket, and is making Niagara the smokeless Manchester of America. Only the works of the Graphite Company were shown, through the courtesy of Mr. Acheson: it is said that permission is now entirely withdrawn in the case of plants

producing aluminium, carborundum, and silicon, phosphorus, chlorate of potash, and barium salts. The visit coincided with that of about ninety members of the British Institute of Civil Engineers.

Visits were paid to other works, and Buffalo was reached about midday. There a luncheon was tendered to the visiting party by the Ellicott Club, the business-men's luncheon club, situated on the tenth floor of the Ellicott Square Building, and a very large number of the 600 members, representing all the principal business interests of Buffalo, attended. The ladies were entertained in a separate suite of beautifully appointed rooms. A choice was made between a trip on the river or a visit to a soap-works, and all accepted the invitation to a reception at the Buffalo Club for 5.30 p.m. Here an equally large company of ladies and gentlemen representative of the business and professional interests of the city assembled to offer a welcome to the second city of New York State.

BOSTON.

On the arrival at Boston the next morning the party transferred to the Hôtel Somerset, a fine new house built on Old English lines, which was used as the headquarters during the two days' stay in the "hub of the universe." Visits were paid to the magnificent public library, the art museum and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. A delightful afternoon was spent at Harvard University. Here the members were received by the venerable and distinguished President Eliot, and were afterwards the guests of the University at a buffet luncheon given at the Harvard Union. They were then shown the principal laboratories and buildings, of which there are sixty (including Professors' houses) within the beautifully rural grounds. The University owns eighty acres of land at Cambridge (so named in honour of the English University); it has schools of medicine, dentistry, and agriculture in Boston, and a botanic garden of 220 acres some miles away; a biological school and laboratories are in course of erection.

On Friday visits to various works were arranged, including the Merrimac Chemical Company and the Cochrane Chemical Company, both manufacturing heavy chemicals, concluding with a "clam-bake" on the shore of the bay. On the Boston committee were Messrs. Godfrey L. A. Cabot (analytical chemist), Chairman; Henry Howard (general manager Merrimac Chemical Company), Secretary; E. F. Billings (President Billings-Clapp Company—pharmaceuticals) and A. L. Cochrane (Cochrane Chemical Company). With the arrival at New York on Saturday morning was completed the tour of 3,000 miles on American territory.

SAYING FAREWELL.

The final courtesies were exchanged on Tuesday, October 4, when the University of Columbia conferred the degree of D.Sc. on Sir William Ramsay and Mr. William H. Nichols, who succeeds him in the presidency of the Society. A farewell banquet was tendered to the visitors at the Brooklyn Institute in the evening, and most of the party returned by the White Star liner *Baltic* on Wednesday, October 5. A few, including Mr. Thomas Tyrer, are extending the excursion for a few days longer for a visit to Canada.

UP-TO-DATE BOOKSELLING.—Quite the newest form of advertising, says the "Daily Mirror," has been initiated by a firm of cash chemists at Brighton, who secured a large supply of Marie Corelli's new book, which they offered to customers less the full trade discount. The books were actually left at people's houses, and the next day a call was made for either their return or the money.

THE POTATO. which until the clinical researches of Moseé were published two years ago was withheld from patients suffering from saccharine diabetes, contains 16 to 24 per cent. of starch; its salts are chiefly those of potash, phosphate predominating. Potato flour, prepared by rubbing down potatoes (cooked by steaming with their coats on) blended with cream and butter, makes an excellent and delicious baked cake for diabetics. To make bran and potato diabetic bread take $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of potato-flour, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. of bran, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of German yeast, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of butter, and one egg. Cause the mixture to "rise" by putting near the fire for one hour, and bake in greased tins for one and a half hour.—*Sir James Sawyer's "Practical Medicine,"* ed. iv.

Legal Reports.

Trade Law.

A Gold-paint Order.—At the Belfast Recorder's Court on October 6, before Judge Fitzgibbon, Alfred Guttman (trading as A. E. Guttman & Co.), 8 Long Lane, Aldersgate, Middlesex, processed James Hogg, Sons & Co. (Limited), druggists, York Street, Belfast, to recover 8*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* for loss and damage sustained by plaintiff by reason of the defendants entering into a contract with plaintiff on May 30, 1904, for the purchase of five gross of gold enamel, but failing to carry out the contract, to plaintiff's loss. Mr. Thomas Campbell appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. William Tughan for the defendants. Mr. Campbell explained that the contract was for five gross of okis gold enamel at 84*s.* per gross. The defendants wrote on June 17 to the plaintiff cancelling the order, alleging that the goods were "to be here before the 15th June." Counsel further argued that no date of delivery was mentioned in the sale-note; while plaintiff in his evidence alleged that June in the sale-note was a clerical error for July, as the goods had to come from Germany. The defendants, in their letters read before the Court, said that the plaintiff represented the gold enamel as a product of aluminium through some process; that it contained no copper, as it was the latter which caused the blackening. He also told the defendants there was no sixpenny gold enamel. Mr. Tughan, for the defendants, submitted that the plaintiff had wholly and entirely put himself out of court on the question of damage. The order was in the handwriting of the plaintiff, and stated "To be invoiced June 1st." The date of invoice was the date of despatch, and the goods would be delivered a day or two later, while credit was to date one month from June 15 in case of detention in transit. Up till June 17 no communication was made to the defendants, and in the meantime other traders were displaying goods of a similar description received from Messrs. Guttman. Accordingly defendants cancelled the order. Mr. James A. Hogg having given evidence in support of this statement, the Judge held that the plaintiff never invoiced the goods at all, and could not sustain his case, as he had broken the contract. His Honour therefore dismissed the case.

Salary in Lieu of Notice.—In the City of London Court on Friday, October 7, before Judge Rentoul, K.C., an action was brought by Mr. H. C. Bartlett, 125 Green Lanes, against the Rosin and Turpentine Import Company (Limited), 21 St. Mary Axe, E.C., to recover the sum of 9*l.* 15*s.* for salary due in lieu of notice. On Friday, August 26, when leaving the office at the usual closing-time, he was told by one of the directors to go on until all the invoices were done. He replied that he was not feeling well, and then the director said, "If you don't stop, do not come up to-morrow." He did not go on the morrow, but on the Monday he called to know what was to be done, and then he found that the defendant company would not take him back. He offered to work for a month instead of receiving a month's salary in lieu of notice, but the director said he would not have him (plaintiff) in the office at all. At the same time the director refused to pay the month's salary in lieu of notice. Mr. R. Gill, counsel for the defendants, produced the agreement by which the plaintiff was employed. The document had been duly stamped, he said, and they had had to pay a penalty of 1*l.* for not having it stamped at the time it was executed. Mr. Frederick Cheeseman, one of the defendant company's directors, said there was a standing rule that clerks should stay half an hour on Friday so that they could leave at two o'clock punctually on Saturday. The plaintiff was perfectly well aware of the rule, as he frequently stayed half an hour or so late on Friday nights. They had 100 invoices to get off on the night in question, and they were all got out of the place by 6.40. If the plaintiff had stayed the clerks would all have left ten minutes earlier. It was not fair to the other clerks to allow the plaintiff to go at six o'clock except for some valid reason. Judge Rentoul said the plaintiff had destroyed his own case, and judgment must be given for the defendants. The plaintiff: Then the agreement is not binding by which I am to have a month's notice or a month's salary? Judge Rentoul replied that the agreement was binding enough, but no agreement would give a man a month's wages in lieu of notice if he disobeyed the proper orders.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

CAMPORATED OIL.

At Chippenham on October 6, John Hardy, grocer, of Box, was fined 5*l.* for selling 4½ oz. of camphorated oil which was certified by the analyst to contain only 16 per cent. of camphor instead of about 21 per cent. Defendant stated that he sold it just as he received it from a whole-

sale firm in Bristol, who had since admitted that it was deficient in camphor and had offered to pay all expenses. The Magistrates said he must look to the firm to recoup him.

SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE.

At Nottingham on October 12, Joseph Simpson, of 34 Gregory Street, Old Lenton, was summoned for selling sweet nitre deficient in ethyl nitrite to the extent of 28 per cent. Mr. H. W. Day, who prosecuted, said that these cases had been brought principally to demonstrate how difficult it was to keep sweet spirit of nitre without evaporation, and to show grocers and people of that description who did not understand its properties that if they took the responsibility of selling sweet nitre, they must take the responsibility of keeping it in a proper way. The Chairman: It seems to me it is simply a matter of trade. A grocer should not sell drugs. Mr. Day: That is so, sir. Defendant was fined 20*s.*

TINCTURE OF QUININE.

At the Northampton Borough Police Court on October 12, Evan Charles Ashford, chemist, 32 Gold Street, Northampton, was summoned for selling tincture of quinine adulterated by the addition of water. The hearing, however, was adjourned for a fortnight owing to the illness of the inspector.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re FRANK THOMAS, 13 Market Place, Boston, Chemist and Druggist.—A meeting of creditors was held on October 6, Mr. Charles Reasbeck (representing Kilner Brothers, Limited) presiding. The accounts showed gross liabilities amounting to 2,252*l.*, assets 2,590*l.*, and an estimated surplus of 338*l.* A deed of assignment executed in favour of Mr. Harvey and Mr. C. F. Armstrong was accepted, and a committee of inspection was appointed.

Re JAMES FERRIS, Regent Street, Newtownards, Druggist.—At Belfast Bankruptcy Court on October 10, Mr. T. Alexander, solicitor, referred to the case of Mr. Ferris, who had been adjudicated a bankrupt. When the messenger of the Court went to take possession Mr. Ferris interfered with him, and the Magistrates before whom he had been brought after arrest bound him over to keep the peace (see *C. & D.*, October 8, page 600). Mr. Ferris was now anxious to express regret for his conduct. For the past month he had been in considerable financial and other trouble, and he gave that as an excuse for his unwarranted conduct. Mr. Ferris was then called and publicly apologised. His Honour said he was glad that Ferris had had the good sense to repent of his conduct, as interference with an officer of the Court could not be tolerated.

Re WILLIAM D. O'REGAN, Castleisland, co. Kerry, Chemist.—In the Bankruptcy Court, Dublin, on October 11, before Mr. Justice Boyd, debtor appeared for examination. Debtor said he had been seven years and eight months in trade. He had made an arrangement two years ago, and had incurred only two large debts since then—to Messrs. Leslie & Co. and Messrs. John Sanger & Sons, London. Two months ago he had a public auction of his premises in Tralee. Only two members of the public attended, and the premises were purchased for 130*l.* by a Mr. Quinlan, who was one of his securities on the first arrangement. In 1901 he bought a lease for twenty years of his business place for 60*l.* He assigned it to his wife two months afterwards in consideration of a fortune which she brought him on their marriage in 1896, five years previously. At the time of the assignment witness owed about 1,200*l.* to creditors. The hearing was adjourned.

Re JAMES GRIME, 315 Bolton Road, Darwen, Drysalter and Patent-medicine Vendor.—The first public examination was held before the Registrar (Mr. Withers) at Blackburn Bankruptcy Court on October 12. Debtor's statement of affairs showed that the gross liabilities amounted to 2,276*l.* 16*s.* 7½*d.*, of which 1,264*l.* 6*s.* 3½*d.* was expected to rank, and after embracing all assets the deficiency was put down at 982*l.* 0*s.* 9½*d.* "Bad trade" was the cause of failure alleged by debtor, who stated that he commenced business twenty-four years ago with 315*l.* capital. Of this 15*l.* was his own at the outset, 200*l.* was given him by an aunt, and 100*l.* was borrowed. He repaid the borrowed money in the course of two or three years. He had looked after the business himself. He was not a qualified chemist. The business had not paid for the last three or four years. His difficulties commenced four or five years ago, when he lost a valuable oil-agency which brought him in about 1*l.* a week, and depression in the cotton-trade had seriously affected his business. Debtor was severely

questioned by the Official Receiver and the Registrar regarding his transactions with money-lenders, and subsequently the hearing was adjourned, debtor being directed by the Registrar to furnish an amended deficiency and cash account for the last twelve months.

Deeds of Arrangement.

Jones, Claud Crossman, 18 Beaumont Road, and **Evans, William**, 10 Oxford Place, and trading at South Devon Chambers, Station Road, Millbay, all Plymouth, as the Western Counties Drug Company, drug-sellers. Trustee, Percival White, I.A., Bolitho Bank Chambers, Princess Square, Plymouth. Dated, October 3; filed, October 4. Liabilities unsecured, 142l. 4s. 2d.; estimated net assets, 70l. The creditors include Evans, Gadd & Co. (Limited), Exeter, 40l., and Battle, Maltby & Bower, Lincoln, 14l.

Fisher, George Howard, trading as Lowe & Wylde and Mead & Co., 53 King's Road, Chelsea, 42 Shaftesbury Avenue, and 54 Broad Street, Soho, Chemist.—Trustees, Herbert A. Allison, C.A., 85 Gresham Street, E.C., and another, Dated September 29; filed October 5. Secured creditors, 350l.; liabilities unsecured, 1,860l. 11s.; estimated net assets, 150l. Among the creditors are: Heath, Parker & Brett, London (27l.); Baiss Brothers & Stevenson (Limited), London (350l.); Briedenbach & Co., London (10l.); Idris & Co. (Limited), London (51l.); Boulton & Co. (Limited), London (12l.); and De St. Dalmas & Co., Leicester (10l.).

Kayser, Elizabeth Annie (trading as E. A. Firth & Co.) 18 and 20 Blackfriars Street, Salford, and residing at 355 Moss Lane East, Moss Side, Manchester, wholesale manufacturing chemist. Trustee, John Kerr, 14a Faulkner Street, Manchester, C.A. Dated September 27; filed September 29. Liabilities unsecured, 1,390l. 8s. 6d.; estimated net assets, 292l. 17s. 4d. Among the creditors are:

	£	s.	d.
Barnes, J., Manchester	54	0	0
Brotherton & Co., Leeds	19	0	0
Dee Oil Company (Limited), Saltney Lloyd, T. Howard, & Co. (Limited), Leicester	12	0	0
Robinson & Sons (Limited), Chester- field	14	0	0
Stephenson, J. V., Manchester	18	0	0
Surgical Supply Association, Man- chester	10	0	0
Zimmerman & Co., Salford	11	0	0

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Brierly, J. B., and **Johnson, H. H. P.**, Old Trafford, near Manchester, Trafford Park, near Manchester, and Manchester, physicians and surgeons.

Hillman, G. B., and **Abbott, C.**, Castleford and Whitwood Mere, York, physicians, &c.

Whittaker, H., **Leach, J.**, and **Waddington, A.**, under the style of H. Whittaker & Co., Heywood, Lancs.; so far as regards J. Leach.

Wingfield, T. A., and **White, T. R.**, under the style of Wingfield & Co., Manchester, chemists.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATIONS.

Ponder, Charles Frederick, Lower Clapton Road, Clapton Park, N.E., also Chatsworth Road, Clapton Park, N.E., and Thistlewaite Road, Clapton Park, N.E., physician and surgeon.

Soden, Joseph Edward James, Swansea, physician and surgeon.

IN TROUBLE.—A young man, named Cecil Lamb, was remanded at Bow Street Police Court, on October 11, on charges of embezzlement and attempted suicide. Prisoner had for about two years been in the employment of Messrs. Coe & Scott, manufacturing chemists, 62 Great Russell Street, W.C., and 49l. to 50l. received by him on their behalf was found not to have been paid in. It was stated that prisoner admitted taking the money. When arrested he had a white powder in his possession, and he told the police it was poison, and he had taken a portion of it.

New Companies & Company News.

WHATELEYS (LIMITED).—Capital 2,000l., in 1l. shares. Objects: To acquire the business of a teeth-extractor and artificial-teeth maker and specialist carried on by Mrs. H. Whateley at County Chambers, Corporation Street, and 17 Great Hampton Street, Birmingham, and at The Parade, Leamington. Registered office, County Chambers, Corporation Street, Birmingham.

MESSRS. SPERO (LIMITED).—Capital 100l., in 1l. shares. To acquire the business of a manufacturer and fitter of teeth carried on by I. S. Spero at 32 Oxford Road, Kilburn, 173 High Street, Camden Town, and 69 High Street, Harlesden. The first directors are I. S. Spero (managing director and secretary), and I. Letowich. Registered office, 173 High Street, Camden Town, N.W.

STERALIS (LIMITED).—Capital 10,000l., in 1l. shares. Objects: To adopt agreements (1) with R. Hicks, (2 and 3) with T. H. Larmuth, and (4) with the Development Trust Agency (Limited), and to carry on the business of manufacturers of, dealers in, and agents for mineral, aerated, and other waters, etc. The first directors are C. Kight, W. Taylor-Russell, and A. S. Spurge. Registered office, 309-310 Dashwood House, New Broad Street, E.C.

SNOW-WHITE SOAP COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 1,000l., in 1l. shares. Objects: To acquire the business lately carried on by the Snow-white Soap Company (Limited) (in liquidation), with all or any of the assets thereof now belonging to J. Kotchie, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of or dealers in soap, soap-powders, and other cleaning-materials, etc. The first directors are J. Kotchie and S. Wickins. Registered office, 13 Size Lane, E.C.

INCORPORATED GLASGOW DENTAL HOSPITAL.—Registered in Edinburgh, with an unlimited number of members each liable for 1l. Objects: To take over the whole of the assets and liabilities of the unincorporated association known as the "Glasgow Dental Hospital." The first governors are J. R. Brownlie, J. F. Miller, W. S. Woodburn, D. M. Alexander, W. F. Young, W. D. Anderson, J. Fergus, J. M. Macmillan, J. Fleming, R. Wilson, H. McKay, and J. Macfarlane. Registered office, 15 Dalhousie Street, Glasgow.

MEGGESON & CO. (LIMITED).—The warrants for the half-yearly interest on debentures and preference shares, together with the final dividend on the ordinary shares in this company, were posted to the shareholders on October 1.

A RUSSO-AMERICAN company, with capital of 10,000,000r., and Mr. G. Bobritski as their agent, want to buy from the Russ an Minister of Agriculture a concession in the Karabugasko Gulf, for the exploitation of Glauber's salt. They propose to build a chemical factory there, for the preparation of alkali and soda salts.

ODAMS' MANURE AND CHEMICAL COMPANY (LIMITED).—The report for the year ended July 30 last states that the year's trading, including 912l. brought forward, has resulted in a balance at credit of profit and loss account of 3,448l. From this has to be deducted debenture and mortgage interest for the twelve months, leaving to be carried forward 55l.

SADLER & CO. (LIMITED).—The report of this company, of Abidlesborough, chemical manufacturers, shows a profit for the past year of 14,835l., to which must be added 1,159l. brought forward. It is proposed to appropriate for renewal and maintenance 3,795l., for depreciation 1,993l., and for special expenditure 1,200l., and to carry forward 3,471l., after providing for debenture interest. Owing to the extraordinary outlay and increasing business of the company the directors do not recommend a dividend.

HENRY HODDER & CO. (LIMITED).—The general meeting of shareholders was held at Bristol on October 11, Mr. H. R. Wansbrough presiding. The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the directors' report, which was published in last week's CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST (page 622), said it was satisfactory to be able to carry forward a balance of 600l. to the following year. The country had no doubt been passing through a period of depression in trade, and though the company had suffered in common with other people, the business of H. Hodder & Co. (Limited) seemed to him to be in a very healthy state. After referring to the removal from Broad Street, he said he believed that during the next year a substantial increase would be reaped from the transfer which had been effected to Wine Street. For the first quarter of this year the company's takings had shown a satisfactory increase over the corresponding quarter of last year, and the majority of that was attributable to the removal to Wine Street. The motions for the adoption of the report and dividend were seconded and unanimously adopted. Mr. J. Cyril Thompson was re-elected a director, and Mr. S. Tryon was reappointed auditor.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

Morphiomania in Pharmacy.

SIR, I should like to ask through your columns whether the habit of taking morphine habitually is on the increase among chemists and their assistants. I am sorry to say I have had a couple of assistants so afflicted within the last twelvemonths, and I have just heard of the death of a third, in a town not far distant, from the same cause. Judging from my observation and experience, I should say the morphine habit is more baneful to all concerned than habitual drunkenness. It appears to root out of its victims all truthfulness and self-respect, leaving them, within a very short time, moral and physical wrecks.

SUEJANTA. (244/36.)

[This also applies to the cocaine habit, of which several sad cases have come under our notice.—EDITOR.]

Some Emotions and Assertions about Women.

SIR,—May I trespass upon your valuable space to support the contention of "Lyndwood" that it is high time something should be done to put a stop to the dishonest practice—and it is certainly nothing less—of obtaining the Minor certificate without complying strictly with the regulations as to previous practical experience? In spite of the assertions of one of your correspondents, I feel sure that the majority of chemists are agreed that by far the greater proportion of defaulters in this respect are ladies. Certain it is that, apart from a very few chemists' daughters who have taken up the profession, the number of genuine lady apprentices in retail pharmacies is practically *nil*, consequently we must go to the doctors to find them, and here, again, it is very difficult to find those who are giving up their whole time to pharmacy and dispensing with the object of taking the Minor eventually. To what other conclusion, therefore, can one come, especially when one knows the circumstances in which many of the present lady chemists have obtained their certificates, than that their experience has been, in many cases, nominal only? Anyone who has had much connection with the rank-and-file of the medical profession will admit that, whatever else they may be, they are not, as a rule, good pharmacists, as the training they receive in this branch is not very advanced; and consequently those who receive their training from them cannot be said to have had a first-class experience. Further, the Minor certificate states that the holder is "qualified to be registered as a chemist and druggist," which implies that he or she has had good business training; for whatever a chemist is, a druggist is certainly a tradesman pure and simple, and a person who has only had an experience in a doctor's dispensary is hardly qualified to manage a good-class pharmacy. However, rightly or wrongly, the Pharmaceutical Society has decided to admit such a qualification as sufficient, so this is forbidden ground at present.

What I would urge is that simple measures, which would require no Act of Parliament, be taken in order to ensure a full investigation of each application before admitting it. I know that under the present conditions this would be impossible; but have we not an efficient body of men in our Divisional Secretaries through whom the application could be made, and who, being acquainted with local affairs, would in nine out of ten cases know if it were genuine at once, and could easily make a further investigation if necessary? This would I think be the simplest and most effectual way of dealing with the evil, and so safeguarding the interests of chemists and the general public also.

Yours faithfully,

CANTAB., M.P.S. (253/24.)

SIR,—I was greatly and unpleasantly surprised to learn that a gentleman of Mr. Harold Deane's position looked with evident favour upon girls, quite untrained as a rule,

entering our profession. If others of similar standing are of the same opinion the outlook for the majority of retail chemists is indeed a black one. With regard to the unnecessary taunt that I am not acquainted with the examination, the fact of having passed it in London within the last five years is, I think, sufficient answer. When I was examined, I received every consideration from the examiners, and it would indeed be very ungrateful to repay their kindness by making a libellous statement. However, it does seem to require a reasonable explanation of how it is that girls are, in proportion to the number presented, more successful than men, many of whom have served a proper apprenticeship.

If the three-years' apprenticeship with a registered chemist was essential before being accepted as a candidate for the Minor, it would weed out doctors' dispensers, foreigners, warehousemen, unqualified stores assistants, and other undesirables who now enter the profession by the back door. Can one reasonably expect to obtain apprentices under the present lax conditions? A youth wishing to enter our profession has, generally speaking, two ways open to him—one by serving an indefinite number of years behind the counter with a competent teacher, usually working long hours and receiving little or no pay; the other by acting as dispenser to a doctor, who knows practically nothing about the subject, but in whose employment the hours are short, a comparatively good salary is given, and plenty of time is available for recreation and study. It is not surprising that many choose the latter. In no other profession are the preliminary conditions of entrance so absurd. Who ever heard of a doctor serving a portion of his course with a chemist? If the compulsory three-years' apprenticeship was adopted, medical men might find some difficulty in obtaining suitable young men as dispensers. The natural sequence would be that the dispensing would be done by the local chemist. Should the supply of nourishment be cut off from a plant, it withers and dies; and if the supply of youth was not forthcoming, many unqualified drug-stores, those pernicious satellites of our profession, would cease to exist. One flagrant example occurs to me. In a certain large town is a man (unqualified) with four shops, three of which are, or were quite recently, under the control of his so-called apprentices. In a short time these apprentices will duly present themselves for examination.

Yours faithfully,

LYNDWOOD, M.P.S. (3/63.)

Letters in Brief.

SAL DE PURGANTE. Mr. Charles E. Rowcroft, writing from Minas de Rio Tinto, says: "The answer to the query in your issue of September 25 is 'Epsom Salts,' commonly known here also as 'Sal de la Niguera'—i.e., salt of the Pig tree."

ANOTHER HISTORIC QUACK who lives in fame by the association of his name with a pharmaceutical compound, and who deserves to figure in the *C. & D.* gallery (writes a correspondent, 29/70), was the Abbé Rousseau, the originator of "Rousseau's Laudanum," a fermented preparation of opium and honey. He was a Capucine monk, destined for missionary work in Asia. Rome sent him to Paris, before arranging his life's work, to study medicine. He took a letter of introduction to Colbert, who installed him in the Louvre, where the Abbé set up a laboratory, and soon began treating patients. He knew almost nothing of medicine, but his fame grew, and Louis XIV., who patronised so many quacks, ordered the Faculty to confer on him a degree in medicine. He became the rage under the title of "the Capucine of the Louvre." His superiors, however, then thought it time for him to proceed to the East, but the Abbé had tasted fame, and his missionary zeal had cooled. He was found not suitable for his intended field of labour, and he was retired to Cluny, where for the rest of his life he occupied himself in semi-scientific researches.

Dispensing Notes.

Biniodide-of-Mercury Collyrium.

SIR,—Can you give me the correct way to dispense the following prescription, which was brought into my pharmacy last Friday?—

Hydrarg. biniod. lot. (1 in 5,000) Oj.

The lotion for the eyes. To be used thrice daily, warm. I dispensed it with 2 grains biniodide and hot water. Should I have been justified in dissolving it with an iodide

—say, sodii iodid? I may say the prescription was written by an eye-specialist. To me the directions were rather a surprise, for I could find in no text-books any reference to biniodide for the eyes. Yours truly,

A. F. TAYLOR.

[Mercuric iodide is superior as an antiseptic to mercuric chloride, and has long been used in ophthalmic practice, both as lotion and ointment. In the above case the iodide should be dissolved by the aid of potassium iodide. Dissolve 5 grains of the latter in half a drachm of water; put the mercuric iodide in a few drachms of water and add the potassium-iodide solution until dissolved.]

251/7. *Apprentice*.—All that you have to do with the ointment is to mix together 10 per cent. of cocaine and 2 oz. of boric ointment in a mortar. Ten per cent. means approximately 90 grains. We fancy the prescriber did not realise how potent an article he is putting in his patients' hands, or how expensive it is. The alkaloid should be triturated with 2 dr. of the ointment before incorporating the rest.

9/12. *Dubious*.—Sodium glycocholate is a "salt" resembling sodium taurocholate, and is given to gouty subjects in doses of 2 to 6 grains. The late Dr. Mortimer Granville prescribed it.

258/25. *Oro*.—*Ol. betul.* may be either oil of winter-green or birch tar, the nature of the prescription must determine which. If for a skin-disease, birch tar is most probably meant. This is better known as *Ol. rusci*.

24/90. *Chloretone*.—(1) The gargle containing alum, borax, and infusion of roses is a thorough incompatible, and cannot be improved. (2) Plasters are spread on the rough side of sheepskin.

Legal Queries.

Labels to be marked "Liable" or "Not liable" to medicine stamp-duty should be sent to the Editor in duplicate and with a stamped and addressed envelope for return of the marked ones, if desired.

5/22. *S. J. R.*—The matter is *sub judice*, and if the facts come out in court the Public Prosecutor may take proceedings.

3/64. *Morphia*.—The making as well as the vending of dutiable medicines requires a licence, even although they are made in a private house. You are required by statute to inform the nearest Inland Revenue supervisor of your intention, and he will give you the necessary licence. The legal difference between making whisky and patent medicines is merely one of degree.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

184/7. *C. S. & Co.*—*Violette de Parme*.—Taking the following formula as a basis you can produce various-priced perfumes by dilution with tincture of orris (2 oz. to 1 pint).

Solution of ionone (1-64) ...	1 pint.
Oil of orris (concrete) ...	1 dr.
Oil of bergamot ...	¼ dr.
Solution of artificial musk (1 per cent.) ...	¼ dr.

Colour pale green with chlorophyll.

140/9. *Sub*.—(1) The mixture (containing chloroform) must be labelled "Poison" and with the name and address of the seller. (2) Shop-soiled Trusses are best cleaned with benzine liberally applied.

251/49. *G. D.*—Did you send the young men stamped and addressed envelopes?

1/11. *Ferri*.—(1) There are no dispenserships on Atlantic liners or on any British ships afloat. (2) As long as you speak of pharmacy as a "profession" we are unable to advise you what foreign country would best suit you to go to as an assistant.

258/17. *F. D.* (Hungary).—The best Basis for Shaving-soap is a mixture of three parts of hard soap (what is called in England best primrose soap) and one part of soft soap. They must be well beaten together with 1 per cent. of olive oil, and suitably perfumed and coloured.

258/67. *L. P. S. I.*—It is the alum in your tooth-powder which gives it the bad taste. Omit it, and put in 5 grains of saccharin.

259/15. *Antipyryn*.—Refer to our Educational number, August 13, 1904.

259/67. *C. M.*—The nature and duration of nasal catarrh must be known before any treatment can be prescribed. Meanwhile a menthol spray (5 grains of menthol in an ounce of liquid paraffin) may be advantageous.

253/67. *Rhei*.—The metallic contamination cannot be removed from the rhubarb-wine without spoiling the wine otherwise.

252/28. *E. R.*—Gorham's "Tooth-extraction," published by H. K. Lewis, will suit you.

233/66. *R. H. M.*—The B.P. test-solution of ammonium carbonate acts as a solvent for arsenious sulphide, but as this reagent is somewhat ammoniacal, stannic sulphide, as well as arsenious sulphide, may be dissolved out by it from a precipitate of mixed arsenium-group sulphides. A solution of ammonium bicarbonate dissolves arsenious sulphide but not stannic sulphide. A solution of commercial ammonium carbonate (containing, as it does, ammonium carbonate and bicarbonate) therefore approximates more nearly to the reagent appropriate for separating arsenious sulphide from the other sulphides of the arsenium group than does the B.P. test-solution of ammonium carbonate.

150/24. *D. A. D.*—Husk in Calves.—The quantities of terebene (5ij.), carbolic acid (℥xxx.), and chloroform (℥xxx.) mentioned in "Veterinary Counter-practice," page 185, are intended for one dose by intratracheal injection. The proportion named is for a well-grown one-year-old calf, rather less being advised for a younger animal and about one-third for a lamb. As an alternative a draught of

Turpentine ...	5j.
Tincture of asafetida ...	5ss.
Linsced oil ...	5v. to 5viij.

may be given. This dose to be given after at least a night of fasting in a building. Direct contact by intratracheal injection is much more effective than a draught *per os*, and although the turpentines (like certain forms of alcohol) are easily recognised in the expired air (proving their contact through the circulation), they are necessarily very dilute when mixed with the whole volume of the blood. There is, however, good reason to suppose that the lungs, both of man and beast, take on the office of elimination of volatile things, and we may in this way account for a good deal of effect upon parasitic inhabitants of the bronchi: they are, as it were, in the neck of the funnel, and receiving the full force of a considerable lung-area. The operation of giving the intratracheal injection is a very simple one, if you first accustom yourself to the outlines of the trachea, placing finger and thumb behind it, and so getting the skin tense over it. Do not force the needle into the opposite side, but give it a downward direction and empty the barrel slowly. The middle portion of the trachea has the least muscular clothing, and is therefore selected for the purpose.

5/3. *Aliquis*.—Refer to our Educational number, August 13.

257/18. *Invieta*.—The formulæ for *Physie-mass* given in "Veterinary Counter-practice" are the best of their kind. The tendency to flatten is inherent in a mass consisting mainly of aloes, and it is on this account that gelatin capsules are so popular for physic-balls.

253/59. *Ophthalmometer*.—You should make yourself familiar with the use of the retinoscope and the "indirect" method of ophthalmoscopy; the saving of time is considerable, and many abnormalities are revealed at a glance which would be missed by the trial-case method alone. Retinoscopy is easily learnt with the aid of a phantom eye and discarded sphero-cyl. lenses, attempting the real eye only after becoming proficient with the artificial and always confirming results with the trial-case. For a beginner with the retinoscope there are plenty of pitfalls, but experience and observation will overcome them. The use of the ophthalmometer is not universally recommended, as it only shows the corneal error. With practice it is

easy to locate the axis within a degree or two with the retinoscope, and the test-types will do the rest.

258/28. *Centaur*.—Brown-harness Composition.—Melt together yellow wax 5 oz. and lard 4 oz., remove from the fire and add turpentine 5 oz.; stir the mixture till it sets.

Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

- 1/21. Who are the makers of aseptic furniture?
 10/50. Agents or makers of Casilib, a tablet for piles.
 10/61. Makers of thick oval glycerin-bottles, No. 273.
 24/90. Address of manufacturer of lithographic paper and ink.
 10/67. Where can the Wilnot Castle Company's feeding-bottles be obtained?
 10/4. Who are the makers of "Daw Brothers' Camel brand of sanitary fluid"?
 8/35. Makers of tooth-powder tins with double bottom—the inner rounded and the outer square.

Birth.

HORSEY.—At 2 Chichester Street, Upper Westbourne Terrace, W., on October 4, the wife of Frederick Samuel Horsey, chemist and druggist, of a son.

Marriages.

AITKEN—COOPER.—At King's Rooms, Aberdeen, on October 7, by the Rev. Wm. Cruickshanks, M.A., U.F. Church, Inverurie, Robert Aitken, chemist and druggist, Dunbar, to Christina Copland, second daughter of Mr. James Cooper, Neilsbrae, Fintray, Aberdeenshire.

BAIT—LOGAN.—On October 5, at St. Mary's parish church, Donnybrook, by the Rev. Fergus W. Greer, M.A., Rector of St. Catherine's, George Henry Batt, pharmaceutical chemist, proprietor of the Sandymount Medical Hall, Sandymount, Dublin, to Jessie Emily, daughter of the late Mr. C. H. Logan, 111 Donore Terrace, South Circular Road, Dublin.

JONES—ROBINSON.—On October 3, at the Welsh Church, Talbot Street, Dublin, by the Rev. John Lewis, William Jones, M.P.S.I., to Elizabeth Charlotte, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Irvén Robinson, Dublin.

LEWIS—FELTWELL.—At St. Mary's Church, Hammersmith Road, W., on September 22, Alfred Lewis to Julia Jessie, daughter of Mr. J. Felwell, chemist and druggist, 91 Hammersmith Road, W.

McGAVIN—LEIGH.—At Lancaster Road Congregational Church, on October 6, by the Rev. David Evans, William McGavin, chemist and druggist, Preston, to Edith Ellen Leigh, Newsham Lodge, near Preston.

STAUNTON—O'LOUGHLIN.—On September 28, at St. Edward's, Rusholme, Manchester, Edward Bertram Staunton, L.P.S.I., Galway, to Julia, youngest daughter of Mr. J. O'Loughlin, Collector Inland Revenue, Oldham.

Coming Events.

Notices for insertion under this heading should be received by the Editor on Wednesday of each week.

Friday, October 14.

Leicester Chemists' Association, Winn's Café, Market Place, at 8.45 P.M. General meeting and discussion on the Shop-hours Act and C.O.D. system.

Saturday, October 15.

Brewers' Exhibition opens at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, N., and remains open till October 21.

Tuesday, October 18.

Bradford Chemists' Association, Royal Hotel, at 9 P.M. Discussion on the Shop-hours Act, introduced by Mr. R. H. Marshall.

Wednesday, October 19.

Western Chemists' Association, Norfolk Square Hotel, London Street, Paddington, W., at 9 P.M. First meeting of the session.

Royal Microscopical Society, 20 Hanover Square, W., at 8 P.M. Demonstration entitled "The Re-construction of a Fossil Plant," by Dr. Dukinfield H. Scott, President.

Thames Valley Chemists' Association, Castle Assembly Rooms, Richmond, at 8 P.M. Paper by Mr. F. Truman, "Unavoidable Prescribing in the Routine of a Chemist's Business," and discussion on the Shop-hours Act and C.O.D. proposals.

Thursday, October 20.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, W., at 9 P.M. Short papers by members.

Leeds Chemists' Association, Grand Central Hotel, at 8.15 P.M. Annual dinner. The President of the Pharmaceutical Society (Mr. R. A. Robinson) will be the guest of the Association. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, may be had from Mr. W. T. Castelow, 7 Queen Victoria Street, Leeds.

Glasgow and West of Scotland Chemists' Trade Association, 94 West Regent Street, Glasgow, at 9 P.M. Annual meeting.

Brighton Association of Pharmacy, 122 King's Road, at 9 P.M. General meeting.

London Drug Statistics.

THE following statistics are compiled from information supplied by public warehouses. They relate to the receipts and deliveries of some of the leading drugs from and into the London public warehouses for the month of September, 1904, and to the stocks on September 30.

	September		Stocks		1904	
	Landed	Delivd.	1904	1903	Imptrd.	Delivd.
Aloes.....cs, etc.	93	115	732	1,010	1,340	1,512
".....gourds	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arrowroot.....pkgs	143	908	11,680	13,852	13,286	14,242
Balsams.....cks, etc.	20	44	535	782	206	431
Calumha.....bgs	—	21	331	641	30	282
Camphor.....pkgs	488	514	1,698	1,733	5,839	5,000
Cardamoms cs, etc.	228	542	2,927	2,440	5,541	4,733
Cinchona.....pkgs	143	664	6,663	6,976	9,000	7,735
Cochineal.....bgs	20	36	284	498	277	482
Cubeba....."	—	3	694	1,130	150	434
Dragons-blood.....cs	18	9	49	130	43	110
Galls.....pkgs	223	354	1,471	5,548	836	4,357
Gums.....	—	—	11	12	14	16
Ammoniacum ..	—	—	583	257	1,169	811
Animi ..	243	227	4,793	33,362	40,414	49,897
Copal....."	5,115	4,793	7,062	10,233	8,790	12,033
Arabic....."	1,477	1,830	29	369	132	757
Asafetida....."	3	29	194	1,432	1,596	1,762
Benzoïn....."	194	180	689	1,852	2,566	3,106
Damar....."	689	266	—	3	—	—
Gallbanum....."	—	—	10	9	11	65
Gamboge....."	—	9	25	8	66	45
Guaiazum....."	25	8	196	282	1,178	743
Kauri.....tons, net	196	180	—	9	147	6
Kino.....pkgs	—	3	12	9	25	26
Mastic....."	1	3	32	93	148	214
Myrrh, E.I....."	17	32	413	2,616	1,939	4,705
Olibanum....."	14	413	20	42	1,100	1,279
Sandarac....."	20	42	458	678	3,045	3,578
Tragacanth....."	458	678	—	—	8,238	9,424
Ipecacuanha.....	—	—	100	50	323	421
Matto Grosso ..	100	50	—	7	51	105
Minas....."	—	7	6	30	36	253
Cardatena....."	6	30	22	—	28	8
E. I....."	22	—	—	15	260	111
Jalap.....bls	30	15	4	843	119	23
Nux vomica.....pkgs	4	843	—	—	6	360
Oils.....	—	—	—	1	126	345
†Aniseed, star cs	—	6	30	341	537	961
†Cassia....."	30	1	76	120	153	523
Castor.....pkgs	76	341	94	120	153	523
Cocoa-nut.....tons	94	120	6	2	8	44
Palm....."	6	2	—	—	—	—
Quinine.....lbs	—	1,750	209,221	194,341	28,250	23,186
Rhubarb.....chts	133	46	71	56	157	307
Sarsaparilla.....bls	71	56	2,178	897	2,585	1,612
Senna.....pkgs	2,178	897	5,763	4,600	26,490	15,225
Shellac.....cs	5,763	4,600	253	74	437	162
Sticklac....."	253	74	19	29	*471	505
Turmeric.....tons	19	29	731	352	1,838	2,173
Wax, bees.....pkgs	731	352	200	83	638	360
"Japan.....cs, etc.	200	83	—	—	—	—

* Corrected.

† Stocks lying at Smith's Wharf and Brewer's Quay are not included in this return.

‡ Includes the quantity at Red Lion, Bull, and Smith's Wharves; also at the Docks.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: October 13.

A QUIETER feeling is evident in drugs and chemicals this week, and there are few features of interest to report. Bromides have been reduced as anticipated, but there is still an unsettled feeling in the market. It is understood that the reduction is due more to the advent of a new German maker than to American competition. "Shilling" quinine has again been reached by the makers, and rather more demand is reported from second-hands. Possibilities of an advance in camphor are talked about, and although crude is coming in in unsatisfactory quantities, the demand at this time of the year is very light. The peppermint-oil market is dull, but cables from the United States report a strong market there. Cod-liver oil is rising, and demand has much improved. The shellac-market is in the hands of the "bulls" and "bears" for the moment, and prices have fluctuated wildly. Phenacetin has been the subject of keen competition, and is lower. The following table shows the principal fluctuations of the week, including those recorded at the drug-auctions:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Ammonia sulphate	Cantharides (Chinese)	Aloes (Cape)	Asafetida (good)
Annatto-seed	Copper sulphate	Cardamoms	Bromides
Ginger (Cochin washed)	Oil, cod-liver	Ginger (Jam.)	Podophyllum-root
Oil, palm		Petroleum	Scabiae
Oil, spearmint		Phenacetin	
Oil, winter-green			
Quinine and salts			
Sassafras-bark			

Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, October 13:—Business here is dull. Castor oil is rising, and cod-liver oil is firmer, at 175m. per barrel.

SMYRNA, October 13:—Sellers of opium are maintaining their prices, and there are no hopes of a decline at the moment.

NEW YORK, October 13:—The market here is active. Opium has advanced to \$2.70 per lb., and quinine is now quoted at 23c. per oz., being dearer. Senega remains easy at 68c. and cod-liver oil shows a hardening tendency at \$44 per barrel. Rio ipecacuanha has advanced to \$1.25 per lb., and peppermint oil is strong at \$3.60. Cascara sagrada is firm at 8c. per lb.

Java Quinine-tender.

At the tender of Java quinine held at Batavia on October 12, 8,473 kilos. of Ed. II. were offered, of which 797 kilos. sold at an average of 16.70fl. per kilo. (about equal to 6.10c. Amsterdam unit) against 16.5fl. paid at the previous tender. The next tender will be held in Batavia on November 18.

Ambergris Galore.

The "Daily Mail" states that three Indians while fishing on the Alaskan coast brought up a piece of ambergris weighing 100 lbs., which has been valued at 13,000l. This works out at the ridiculous figure of 8l. 2s. 6d. per oz., or over 3l. more than what will buy the finest ambergris in London.

Chilian Iodine.

The production of iodine in Chili amounted in 1903 to 155½ tons. Nineteen of the eighty-six nitrate-works are said to be allowed to manufacture this by-product. The export of iodine amounted last year to 382½ tons, and the stocks re-

maining in Chili on December 31, 1903, were stated to be 811 tons. This quantity is said to be enough to cover the trade demand for two years. The price of crude iodine was 12 centavos per oz. in 1903. It lately rose, however, to 15 centavos, as it was expected that the production in Japan would decrease in consequence of the war.

Olive-oil Crops.

Mr. Frederick Boehm, of 16 Jewry Street, E.C., has received an exhaustive report on the condition of the olive-oil crops in the principal producing countries. The report, which has been specially compiled by one of Mr. Boehm's shippers, bears evidence of careful investigation in regard to the actual state of the 1904-5 crops throughout Europe and Northern Africa, including Italy, Spain, France, Tunis, and Algeria. As regards the general condition of the crops, the report states that in consequence of the excessive heat this summer the crops have arrived at maturity much earlier than usual, and so far little has been heard of the "olive-fly," except in Provence, and there it has not done much damage. The 1903-4 crops, both as regards quantity and quality, were different from what they have been for a number of years, inasmuch as they were well distributed in all the countries producing olive oil, whereas as a rule the crops are abundant at one point of the Mediterranean, and not at others. As regards 1904-5 the general crop in all parts of Italy has been very bad. This is not surprising in Italy, for one good year is never succeeded by another. This is because the trees are very old, and consequently cannot bear well two years in succession. The particulars obtained from Spain are very unfavourable. The North—i.e., Aragon, Urgel, Borjas, and Tortosa—has produced very small crops, and there is not enough for table-consumption. The South (Andalusia) is small too, and a bad crop is reported in the provinces of Seville and Cordoue, but a good half-crop may be expected in the provinces of Jaen and Malaga. The crop in Tunis this year is estimated at one-fifth of what it was last year. The province of Sfax is the one which suffered most damage, and its crop will be almost nil. The crop is almost nil in Algeria also; Kabylie only is reported as having a half-crop, but as it only produces a little it will not have much influence on the market. As regards France, the crop is nil in Provence, Var, and Alpes-Maritimes; and all other producing countries, such as the Levant, Sardinia, Corsica, and Sicily, are practically in the same position as the above-mentioned countries.

Reviewing the general position, it is stated that in consequence of the large crops of 1903-4 prices have gone down considerably, especially from January to May, during which months consumption and speculation increased greatly. In June and July, which are the quiet months for the oil-trade, prices remained almost stationary. Further, buyers were waiting the reports on the future crop, and as these have proved unfavourable the prices since August have increased continuously, and this advance will be more marked as the crop figures are better known. It may therefore be said that the 1904-5 crop will be a very dear one, and one such as has not been seen for a long time.

ACID, ACETIC.—A report from Germany states that a further increase is reported in the price of the crude material, consequently the manufacturers have felt obliged to announce another advance in the price of acetic acid. This amounts to about 8m. per 100 kilos. In these circumstances it is considered wise to cover for some time ahead, especially as second-hands are in many cases still able to offer advantageously.

ALKALI.—The German works notify a reduction in the price of calcined soda by 75pf. per 100 kilos. This is attributed to the fact that a new competitor has appeared on the market. It is expected that this reduction will react on the price of soda-crystals, and so on.

ALON.—English B.P. quality is firm at 2s. per lb.

ALUM.—The German convention has decided to increase the price of potash alum ½m. per 100 kilos.

AMERICAN DRUGS.—The following are a few current quotations for American indigenous barks, leaves, roots, etc., the prices of which mostly show an upward tendency: **Barks.**—Bayberry 35s. per cwt., sassafras 6½d. per lb., simaruba 2s. per lb., wahoo of root 10½d., and witch-hazel (hamamelis) 2d. and 2½d. per lb.—all c.i.f. terms. **Leaves.**—Damiana 5½d. and 6d. per lb. spot, deer-tongue 2½d. spot, and witch-hazel 2½d. and 2½d. **Oils.**—Genuine sassafras 2s. 9d. per lb. to arrive; spearmint in bulk is very scarce, at 18s.; wintergreen is also dearer, at 8s. per lb. spot. **Roots.**—Elecampane 2½d. c.i.f., gelsemium 27s. per cwt. c.i.f., culvers 5d. per lb. c.i.f., mandrake (podophyllum) 30s. c.i.f., sanguinaria 5d. and 6d. c.i.f., Mexican sarsaparilla 5½d. c.i.f., and spigelia is dearer at 1s. per lb. c.i.f.

AMMONIUM CARBONATE.—A German report states that manufacturers are not inclined to make any concessions in price, as they are expecting an increase later on. Consumption is increasing, and it is unlikely there will be a fall in the price of raw material.

ARROWROOT.—Natal partly sold at 4½d. per lb.

BORAX remains low in price, at 13s. per cwt. for crystals and 14s. for powder. *Boric acid* is 22s. and 24s. respectively.

BROMIDES.—The anticipated reduction was announced last Friday, when the makers issued circulars quoting potassium at from 1s. 2¼d. to 1s. 3½d. per lb., the lower price being for 10-cwt. lots and upwards. These figures show a reduction of 8½d. per lb. on the previous nominal convention price. Sodium and ammonium have been reduced 8d., and are now quoted as follows: Sodium 1s. 5½d. to 1s. 6½d., and ammonium 1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d. per lb.—the lower price in each instance being for 1-cwt. lots. Since our note on page 652 went to press we learn that the reduction is directed more against the advent of a new German maker than the American competition. We also understand that orders to the United States have been cabled out at 1s. per lb., c.i.f.; but American makers are out of the market for the present, and no business has been done at this figure.

CAMPHOR.—The demand for refined, both here and on the Continent, continues very quiet. On the one hand the consumption at this time of the year is only slight, but the supply of crude material continues unsatisfactory, and an advance is not out of the question.

CANTHARIDES.—New Chinese for November-December delivery are offered at 1s. 11d. per lb. c.i.f., and business has been done at this figure.

COLLODIUM.—In consequence of the considerably higher prices of the raw material, the German manufacturers announce an increase in price of about 10m. per 100 kilos., with the prospect of a further increase, especially qualities used for technical purposes, for which there has been an increasing demand.

COPPER SULPHATE is firmer at 19l. 5s. per ton on the spot and 21l. for first quality.

GLYCERIN.—The following is the scale of prices now in operation for double-distilled B.P. glycerin, sp. gr. 1.260:

	Under 1 cwt.	1 cwt. and under 2½ cwt.	2½ cwt. and under 5 cwt.	5 cwt. and under 10 cwt.	10 cwt. and under 20 cwt.	1 ton and under 5 tons
10-cwt. drums ...	—	—	—	—	58s.	57s. 6d.
5-cwt. drums ...	—	—	—	59s.	58s. 6d.	58s.
2½-cwt. drums ...	—	—	60s. 6d.	59s. 6d.	59s.	58s. 6d.
1-cwt. drums ...	—	62s.	61s. 6d.	60s. 6d.	60s.	59s. 6d.
56-lb. tins—two four tins in a case ...	65s.	64s.	63s. 6d.	62s. 6d.	62s.	61s. 6d.
28-lb. tins—two, four, or eight tins in a case ...	66s. 6d.	65s. 6d.	65s.	64s.	63s. 6d.	63s.

MENTHOL is quiet at from 10s. to 10s. 6d. per lb. spot as to brand. Yazawa has been sold at 8s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f., for December-January shipment.

MUSK.—The exports from Chungking during 1903 amounted to 58,247 oz. (98,783l.), against 66,330 oz. (117,247l.) during 1902, and 61,789 oz. (124,671l.) during 1901.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on October 8 that the demand for cod-liver oil has considerably improved, and finest non-congealing oil is not now offered below 160s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen. Many holders, however, refuse to sell at this price, as they confidently anticipate higher prices shortly. The exports from Bergen to date amount to 5,450 barrels, against 1,910 barrels at the corresponding period of last year. In London the market for Norwegian shows an increasing firmness, and holders are now asking more money; from 160s. to 170s. per barrel, and even 175s., is quoted.

OIL, PALM.—Lagos has advanced 6d. per cwt., to 27s. 6d. spot.

OILS, ESSENTIAL.—*Peppermint oil* is steady, with sellers of American H.G.H. at 16s. 6d. per lb. spot, and small

sales of Wayne County in tins have been made at 15s. 9d. Sellers of Japanese dementholised oil, Kobayashi brand, ask 6s. 3d. per lb. spot, which price has been paid for small lots; and for December-January shipment Suzuki has been sold at 4s. 6d. c.i.f. Finest *Cinnamon-bark oil* is quoted by distillers at 24s. per lb. *Lemongrass oil* is held for 8d. per oz. on the spot and 6½d., c.i.f., to arrive. *Citronella oil* is quoted 1s. to 1s. 1d. spot. *French-Lavender* and *Spike oils* are both scarce, and for pure of the latter the nominal price is about 4s. 10d. *Star-aniseed oil* is firm, at 5s. 3d. per lb. spot, at which sales have been made. To-day 100 cases sold at 5s. to 5s. 1d. c.i.f.

OPPIUM.—The London market is unaltered, all descriptions remaining slow of sale.

SMYRNA.—The sales during September amounted to 810 cases, comprising 550 cases for the United States, 74 cases for England, 41 cases for the Continent, 73 cases for account of interior and local speculation, and 72 cases for an unknown destination. The prices paid were as follows: Old or new current qualities 6s. 4d. to 6s. 8d., usual run selected tale quale 6s. 7d. to 6s. 11d.; Karahissar, druggists' qualities, 6s. 8d. to 7s.; and Yerli and Bogaditz 7s. to 7s. 10d. per lb. The following are the current quotations: Current tale quale, as to quality 6s. 4d. to 6s. 8d., selected ditto 6s. 8d. to 7s. 2d.; Yerli, Karahissar, and Bogaditz, as to quality and buying conditions 6s. 9d. to 8s. per lb. f.o.b.

Notwithstanding that we have had some rain during September, the market is not easier, but, on the contrary, richer grades have advanced slightly, and the prospects of an easier market through the autumn and winter are appreciably less. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 3,587 cases, against 1,402 at same period last year, and in Constantinople 1,943, against 556 in 1903. The stock in first and second hands is now 4,564 cases, against 4,706 at same period last year, and in Constantinople 1,571, against 716.

PHENACETIN.—Competition has been exceedingly keen of late, and we understand that sales in quantity have been made at below 2s. 6d. per lb. It is thought, however, that prices have now touched bottom, as the manufacture cannot go on at these unremunerative prices.

POTASSIUM IODIDE.—We understand that a British maker who is outside the Convention has reduced his price from 10s. to 9s. 9d. per lb. This price is still 3d. above what Japanese make is obtainable at.

QUICKSILVER.—The monthly statistics of Mr. A. S. Pickering show that during September 16 bottles were imported, against 100 bottles during the same month of 1903, and for the nine completed months of this year the imports amount to 32,213 bottles, compared with 33,881 in 1903. Exports during September were 2,659 bottles, compared with 1,089, and so far this year 17,452 bottles have been exported, or 2,485 bottles more than last year. Average price is 7l. 15s., against 8l. 8s. 6d. during 1903. The above figures reveal an improved export demand, this helping to keep the market steady at 7l. 15s. per bottle.

QUININE.—On Saturday last the *English* and *German* makers advanced their price of sulphate in bulk by ½d. per oz., to 1s.; *Hawards* now quote 1s. 1d. in bulk and 1s. 3d. in vials for not less than 1,000 oz., and *Whiffen's* price is 1s. *Salts* of quinine are also higher, the price of hydrochloride being 1s. 5d. per oz. Previous to the advance on this side the American makers had advanced their price 1d., to 23c. per oz., and this fact, taken in conjunction with the 6 per cent. advance in the unit at Amsterdam last week, probably gave the cue to European makers. The market in second-hands has responded with a firmer tone and more activity, 11¼d. to 11½d. having been paid for spot parcels and 11½d. to 11¾d. for March delivery. The Amsterdam quinine-works have advanced their prices by 1½f. and 2½f. per kilo., and now quote Ed. II. 21½f. and Ed. III. 24½f. per kilo.

SENEGA.—We notice the arrival of 57 bales per s.s. *Mount Temple* from Montreal, but these are all sold for arrival. Spot is obtainable at 3s. 1d. per lb. net.

SHELLAC.—The delivery market closed active and much dearer last week, on Friday and Saturday prices recovering with startling rapidity owing to strong speculative buying. October closed 17s. dearer, and December and January 15s. and 11s. The large business done includes October delivery at from 202s. to 227s., December 170s. to 196s., January 161s. to 175s. to 168s., March 156s. to 165s. to 154s. per cwt. The spot market is also considerably advanced, but the higher prices have checked business. Fair TN Orange has been sold at from 203s. to 215s. per cwt.

SPIRMACETI.—For 20-box lots 9½*d.* per lb., c.i.f., is quoted, and for spot 11*d.* is asked.

SPICES.—At auction washed Cochin *Ginger* was rather dearer, fair medium and small plump selling at 20*s.* to 21*s.*, with mouldy at 19*s.* Native cut Cochin was bought in at 38*s.* to 40*s.*, and 60 bags of Bengal were withdrawn. Jamaica, of which over 600 packages were offered, chiefly sold at previous rates to 1*s.* decline, including fair bright at 39*s.* to 40*s.*, middling dull at 35*s.* 6*d.* to 37*s.* 6*d.*, common to ordinary 28*s.* 6*d.* to 33*s.*, low 25*s.*, and Rhaton 27*s.* to 28*s.* Of *Pepper* the small supply offered sold steadily, including 16 bags of Tellicherry at 5½*d.* per lb. for good damages. Ceylon (20) sold at 6*d.* for good heavy and 5*d.* per lb. for light shelly. Privately prices are steady, fair on the spot being quoted 5½*d.* per lb., August-October shipment at 6*d.*, and January-March at 5½*d.* *White pepper* was also steady in auction, fair selling at 9½*d.*, dullish ditto at 9*d.* Of Siam 67 bags sold at 8½*d.* for brownish. Privately fair Singapore is quoted at 8½*d.*, and fair Penang at 7½*d.* to 8*d.* For arrival prices are rather weaker, good business having been done at the decline, including October shipment at 7½*d.* and October-December at 7½*d.*, c.i.f., delivered weights. *Pimento* was steady in auction, ordinary selling at 2½*d.* and fair at 2½*d.* *Chillies* were quiet. Mombassa (100) being bought in at 40*s.* for yellow and reddish, off stalk. *Nutmegs* and *Mace* were quiet. Of *Cinnamon* 120 bags of Ceylon partly sold, including broken quill, at 6½*d.* to 7½*d.*, and quillings at 5*d.* to 5½*d.* per lb. Of *Cassia lignea*, 100 cases of new were bought in at 50*s.* *Cloves* in auction sold at 10½*d.* per lb. for 4 cases, out of 27 offered. Privately the delivery market for Zanzibar has fluctuated, closing on Wednesday at rather dearer prices, sales including August-October delivery at 8½*d.*, October-December at 6½*d.* to 6½*d.*, and January-March at 6*d.* For arrival October shipment has been selling at 6½*d.* to 6½*d.*, c.i.f., delivered weights.

STAR ANISEED.—A report from Hong-Kong dated September 9 states that small supplies from the interior and a strong demand from northern coast ports keep prices up—64*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. c. and f. Hamburg is quoted.

SUGAR OF MILK.—The principal German manufacturers have united, fixing the price at 110m. per 100 kilos. The position has therefore hardened, and with a continued scarcity of raw material it is thought that prices will further advance.

London Drug-auctions.

The auction of new and old goods held to-day proved uninteresting; a large proportion of the goods was bought in, and, where business was done, prices generally showed an easier tendency. Cape aloes brought slightly lower rates, and there was a fair demand for asafetida, the finer grades of which were cheaper. Annatto seed was rather dearer. Sumatra benzoin sold at valuations, and buchu-leaves, considering the quality offered, were rather firmer. Cubets were neglected, and privately sales have been made at rather lower rates. Calumba is firmly held and slow of sale. Cardamoms sold steadily to 1*d.* per lb. easier for the better qualities. Maracaibo cinchona was perhaps a shade easier, and cascara sagrada was fairly firm. Gamboge is still held at a high figure. Jamaica honey was neglected. Ipecacuanha was decidedly flat, and not a package sold. Jalap is still easy, and for lime-juice there is no demand. Rhubarb was dull of sale, and, generally, prices were easy. Grey Jamaica sarsaparilla is very scarce, and only a few packages of Lima-Jamaica were sold. Tinnevely senna brought full prices considering that the quality was hardly so good as that of the previous auction. Jamaica wax was firmly held, and more demand was shown for East Indian than usual; Zanzibar was unaltered. The following table shows the amount of goods offered and sold:

	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold
Aloes—			Balsam Copaiba ..	7	5
Cape	35	8	Peru	1	0
Curaçao	10	10	Tolu	10	10
Socotrine	10	0	Benzoin—		
Ammoniacum	5	0	Palembang	32	0
Aniseed	30	10	Suigon	15	0
Annatto seed	8	8	Siam	1	1
Antimony	20	*0	Sumatra	121	22
Asafetida	251	103	Buchu	50	3
Balsam—			Calumba	34	0
Canada	3	0	Cannabis indica ..	24	0

*Sold privately.

	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold
Cardamoms	465	256	Oil, cinnamon-leaf		
Cascara sagrada ..	100	0	(bot.)	22	22
Cascarilla	14	0	cucalyptus	53	0
Cassia fistula	98	5	lemon	10	0
Cinchona	115	34	lime	9	0
Coca-leaves	102	27	orange	6	0
Cocculus indicus ..	40	40	orange, btr. (cprs.)	2	2
Colocyth	20	2	patchouli	5	0
Coriander	20	0	peppermint	6	0
Croton-seed	39	0	rose	2	0
Cubebs	50	0	wood	73	0
Cumin-seed	38	0	Olibanum	5	0
Cuttle-fish bone ..	124	0	Opium	3	0
Dragon's blood ..	14	2	Orange-peel	1	0
Elemi	34	10	Oris	18	8
Ergot	34	3	powder	10	10
Fennel-seed	60	0	Papain	1	0
Galangal	20	0	Pareira brava	2	2
Galls	12	6	Patchouli	6	0
Gamboge	10	4	Peach-kernels	7	7
Gum arabic	117	13	Quillaia	60	0
Honey—			Rhubarb	105	17
Honduras	3	0	Sandalwood	45	0
Jamaica	150	59	Sandarac	3	0
New Zealand	72	0	Sarsaparilla	54	7
Queensland	40	0	Scabiae	82	39
Sicilian	2	2	Senega	10	0
Insect-flowers	32	0	Senna—		
Ipecacuanha—			Alex.	2	0
Rio (Matto Grosso)	32	0	Tinnevely	228	214
Rio (Minas)	10	0	Soarie-nuts	2	0
Jalap	60	0	Squill	10	0
Kamala	8	0	Sticklac	36	6
Kola	20	16	Strophanthus	6	0
Lime-juice	50	2	Tamarinds	109	0
Liquorice juice ..	10	0	Tonka-beans	7	0
Liquorice-root	50	0	Tragacanth	3	3
Mastic	11	0	Turmeric	213	0
Myrrh	30	0	Wax (bees')—		
Nux vomica	55	31	Australian	1	1
Oil—			East Indian	61	33
aniseed	22	0	Jamaica	32	5
bay	2	0	Madagascar	110	1
bergamot	1	0	Megador	50	0
cajuput	10	0	Spanish	23	0
cassia	15	15	Zanzibar	149	14
cananga	6	0	Wax, Japanese ..	43	10
citronella	50	0	Wax, Carnauba ..	40	0

ALOES.—Cape was about steady. Fair to good bright hard sold at from 31*s.* to 32*s.*, seconds, softish, 29*s.* 6*d.*, and common drossy 26*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. Ten boxes of dull livery Curaçao brought 21*s.* per cwt., subject.

ANISEED.—Eight bags of fair Cyprus seed from Alexandria sold at 20*s.*, and fresh-water damaged at 18*s.* per cwt.

ANNATTO-SEED.—Dearer. Eight bags of fair Madras sold at 5*d.* per lb.

ANTIMONY.—The parcel of Japanese crude offered had been sold privately; 14*l.* per ton is the price at which business has been done.

ASAFETIDA.—A new parcel of gum from the Persian Gulf was offered to-day, for which there was a fair demand, and the better qualities sold at irregular but rather lower prices. Good pinky and grey broken and loose block sold at from 80*s.* to 95*s.* Good pinky sandy block brought from 75*s.* to 85*s.*, softy pinkish and sandy block 72*s.* 6*d.* to 75*s.*, and brown almondy broken block 80*s.* to 85*s.* per cwt. Fair gummy soft block, partly loose and pinky, brought 65*s.*, part pinky and smoke-damaged block 65*s.*, and partly made-up gum 67*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

BALSAM, CANADA.—Three barrels were limited at 1*s.* 10*d.* per lb.—no discount or allowances.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—Good Maranhão from Liverpool was held at 1*s.* 6½*d.* per lb. A case of bright pale Cartagena sold at 1*s.* 4*d.*, and a further case of opaque sold at 1*s.* 3*d.*

The exports from Colon during 1903 amounted to 1,455 lbs., of which 1,087 lbs. was shipped to the U.S.A. and 368 lbs. to Germany. From Panama the exports last year were 1,081 kilos. (325*l.*), shipped to U.S.A.

BALSAM, TOLU.—Good hard genuine balsam in small tins sold at 1*s.* 1*d.* per lb.

BENZOIN sold at steady prices, 12 cases good almondy Sumatra seconds realising at 6*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* and a case of fair at 6*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., "without reserve." Thirds

sold at 87s. 6d. Fair Palembang seconds were limited at 55s. For small to bold pale free Tonkin almonds, of good appearance but rather weak flavour, 22l. to 23l. per cwt. was wanted; small and medium size 17l., pea and bean size 13l. 10s., and peas 12l. 10s. to 13l. per cwt. An odd case of blocky Siam siftings sold at 6l. 5s. per cwt. without reserve; and 6 cases of Saigon were taken out.

BUCHU was rather firmer considering that no good round leaf was on offer. The best lots offered to-day, consisting of fair round greenish, brought 7½d. per lb. Long leaves were bought in at 2s. nominally.

CARDAMOMS sold at steady to about 1d. per lb. easier rates. Ceylon Mysore: Good bold pale, 1s. 9d. to 2s.; medium and bold, extra pale, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d.; small and medium, extra pale, 11½d. to 1s.; small, 8d. Bold medium, palish, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d.; bold medium, yellowish pale, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d.; medium, dullish to pale, 1s. to 1s. 3d.; medium and small, dullish, 9d. to 10d.; small, palish to pale, 8d. to 9½d.; very small, 7½d. to 8d. *Splits*, good pale, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d.; bold and medium open, 1s. to 1s. 1d.; fair pale splits, 10d. to 11d.; medium splits, 9d. to 9½d.; small splits, 7½d. to 8½d. *Pickings*, bold split, palish, 8½d. to 10½d.; small and medium, 7½d.; ordinary to fair, brown and split, 7d. to 7½d. per lb. *Cardamom* seeds, 9½d. to 11½d. per lb.

CASSIA FISTULA.—Dull West Indian pod (5 bags) sold without reserve, at 18s. per cwt.

CINCHONA.—Thirty-two bales of fair flat Maracaibo sold cheaply at from 4¾d. to 5½d. per lb., and 9 serons of Huanuco quill, rather broken, were held at 11d. Two cases damaged *Red* bark sold at 4¾d. per lb., without reserve.

COCA-LEAVES.—Fair medium greenish Ceylon (Huanuco character), country-damaged, sold at 1s. per lb., and ordinary to medium brownish brought from 5d. to 7½d. per lb. Fair green Truxillo are worth 1s. per lb. to buy, and 5 bales of common dull and damaged sold at 2d. per lb., subject.

COCULUS INDICUS.—Forty bags of fair sold, without reserve, at 5s. 6d. to 6s. per cwt.

COLOCYNTH.—Brownish pulp was limited at from 1s. 8d. to 1s. 9d. per lb., and for a bale of small brown 1s. subject was paid, siftings selling at 7d.

CROTON-SEED.—Ordinary rather dullish Ceylon was obtainable at 25s. per cwt., at which price sales have been made.

CUBEBS.—A parcel of fair brown, slightly stalky, from Calcutta was bought in at 35s. nominally. We understand that sales have lately been made at 24s. per cwt.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—A case of good bright seedy re-boiled Singapore lump was bought in at 15l. 10s. nominally, and a case of medium part bright lump sold at 6l. 15s. Fine bright Zanzibar drop, such as is seldom seen in this market, was bought in at 5l. 10s., a bid of 4l. 10s. being refused. For a parcel of fair *Reed* in finger the buying-in price was 9l. 5s.

ELEMI.—Ordinary common dark paste sold at 24s. per cwt., without reserve.

ERGOT.—In auction 3 bags of rather weevilly old Spanish crop sold at 1s. 7d. per lb., subject. We notice the arrival of 11 bags of ergot and 73 bags of drugs, both from Vigo per s.s. *Danube*.

GAMBAGE sold at firm prices, 16l. per cwt. being paid for 2 cases of fair slightly blocky Siam pipe of rather mixed fracture. For a case of damp pickings 14l. 2s. 6d. was paid, and for good pickings 14l. 12s. 6d.

GUM ARABIC.—A case of pale picked Trieste gum sold at 82s. 6d. per cwt., at which price several other cases are available. Small palish Sudan sorts (6 bags) sold at 35s., and for small to bold good pale amber to red 32s. to 35s. was paid; bold glassy red sold at 25s. per cwt. Pale amber to red Karachi of the new crop was limited at 22s. 6d. per cwt.

HONEY.—Quiet. Jamaica, in tierces, barrels, and hogs-heads, sold at from 16s. to 16s. 6d. for dark liquid, brown set at 16s. to 16s. 6d., fair rather darkish liquid 18s. to 18s. 6d., palish hard set in barrels 24s., and palish setting 23s. 6d. per cwt. Thirteen other packages had been sold

privately. Two cases of pale brown Sicilian sold, without reserve, at 16s. per cwt.

IPECACUANHA.—Flat. No sales were made publicly, neither were any bids forthcoming, which is rather unusual. The quality of the Rio (Matto Grosso) offered was mostly ordinary, for which 5s. 3d. to 5s. 4d. was wanted, 5s. 6d. being asked for fair bright. Good cultivated Rio (Minas) was held at 5s. 3d. No Cartagena was offered.

The exports from Colon during 1903 amounted to 3,642 lbs., of which 3,492 lbs. was shipped to the U.K. and 150 lbs. to Germany. From Panama the exports last year were 3,771 kilos. (1,161l.), of which 3,270 kilos. (996l.) was shipped to the U.K. and 501 kilos. (165l.) to the U.S.A.

KOLA.—For good bright washed rather dark West Indian a bid of 4d. was refused, 5d. being wanted; and in another instance good washed Jamaica sold at 3½d. and sea-damaged at 2¾d.

NUX VOMICA.—A parcel of 31 pockets of dark and dullish Bengal seed sold at from 7s. 3d. to 7s. 6d. per cwt.

OILS, ESSENTIAL.—In auction 22 bottles of *Cinnamon-leaf* oil of doubtful quality sold without reserve at 3d. per oz. Two parcels of Chinese *Star-aniseed* oil were firmly held at 5s. 3d. per lb., a bid of 5s. 2d. being refused. Fair green *Cajuput* oil was obtainable at 3s. 9d. per bottle. Ten cases *Eucalyptus* oil, containing 65 to 70 per cent. of cineol, were limited at 1s. 2½d. per lb., and for 2 cases Hammett's *Lemon* oil is 2s. 4½d. was wanted. Two coppers of *Bitter orange* oil sold, without reserve, at 1s. 6d. per lb. *Cassia* oil sold at steady prices, 10 cases of oil containing 76 per cent. of cinnamic aldehyde realising 2s. 10d., and 5 cases containing 77 to 78 per cent. cinnamic aldehyde 2s. 11d. per lb., without reserve. For hand-pressed *Lime* oil 3s. was wanted, and 1s. 5d. for distilled.

ORRIS.—Four bags of guaranteed pure Florentine powder sold, without reserve, at 19s., and 6 packages of Verona ditto sold at 15s. Lean brown Mogador (8 serons) sold, without reserve, at from 13s. to 14s. per cwt.

PEREIRA BRAVA.—A bid of 10s. is to be submitted for 2 bales of ordinary.

PEACH-KERNELS from Bombay sold at 25s. per cwt.

RHUPARB.—Dull of sale. Two cases of Canton round trimming root sold at 1s. 1d. per lb., good Shensi druggists' trimming root was held at 3s. 3d., and Canton trimming root at 1s. 7d. The following sales were "without reserve": Bold round Canton (2), half pinky and half grey and dark fracture, slightly wormy, 11½d. per lb.; medium round ditto (5), 11d. to 1s.; medium flat ditto (2), 1s. Bold round Canton pickings, half fair pinky and half grey and dark, 10½d. per lb. Shensi (4), medium to bold flat, with three quarters pale pinky fracture, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d.; good Shensi pickings, 1s. 1d. per lb.

SARSAPARILLA.—Two bales of genuine grey Jamaica had been sold privately, and for another 2 bales in auction 1s. 3d. per lb. subject, was accepted. Three bales of very common Lima-Jamaica sold at 7d. per lb., and for rather coarse and chumpy 11d. per lb. was wanted. A parcel of 9 bales Native Jamaica was offered, of which a bale sold at 7½d. for medium yellow, and 9½d. for medium red with peculiar odour.

SCABLAC.—Small dusty to fair native Madras scabs sold at from 6l. 5s. to 6l. 10s. per cwt., with very dusty and part blocky at 5l. 10s. Block also sold at 5l. 10s., and for good clean bold scabs 8l. was wanted.

SENXA.—Tinnevely sold at steady prices as regards the commoner and medium grades, the better descriptions being full up. Good medium greenish sold at from 2¾d. to 3¾d., small greenish 2½d. to 2¾d., and ordinary small specky and sea-damaged 1½d. to 2d. per lb. *Pods* sold at from 1½d. to 1¾d. per lb.

STICKLAC.—Very woody from Madras sold at 93s. per cwt.

WAX, BEES'.—Jamaica was in large supply and neglected, 20 packages offered by one broker passing the hammer unsold. Two barrels of fair red and brown sold at 7l. to 7l. 2s. 6d. per cwt. Good palish yellow to dark Zanzibar pipe sold at 6l. 17s. 6d. Good Calcutta bleached brought 7l. 5s., and fair unsorted Bombay (12) sold at 6l., with dark grey at 5l. 10s. A bale of good Australian sold at 7l. 5s. Fair Madagascar block was held at 7l. 2s. 6d.

WAX, JAPANESE, partly sold at 55s. per cwt. for good tiles.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

COUNCIL MEETING.

IT was an harmonious gathering at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, on Wednesday afternoon, October 5, when the reconstituted Council met to start the work of another year. Mr. Brittain, the new member of Council, was not present. Mr. Montgomery, of Belfast, who has so ably worked for the Society as President during the



MR. W. F. WELLS.

past year, occupied the chair again only long enough to enable him to secure the appointment of William Frederick Wells as his successor. Mr. Wells was President of the Society from 1895 to 1897, and before that was Vice-President, and during part of his tenure of that office was, owing to the President's absence, practically head of the Council. Then his colleagues recognised his work by presenting him with an address, and when he retired from the presidency in 1898 he was presented with a mas-

sive silver rose bowl. Mr. Wells is now succeeded in the vice-presidency by James Aloysius Walsh, the proprietor of Graham & Company's Medical Hall, Westmoreland Street, Dublin. He is a physician and surgeon as well as a pharmacist, having, after passing the Licence examination in 1888, continued his studies at the R.C.S., Ledwith School, and Trinity College-Dublin, qualifying as L.R.C.P. & S.E. and L.F.P.S.G. in 1892. As a cultured and level-headed man he has been of distinct service to the Society. Mr. John Smith continues in the office of Hon. Treasurer. The rest of the day's business was of a routine character.



DR. J. A. WALSH.

THE members who attended were Mr. Johnston Montgomery (who took the chair), Mr. W. F. Wells, Mr. George D. Beggs, Dr. Walsh, Mr. W. Vincent Johnston, Mr. John Smith, Mr. J. Edgar Connor (Newry), Mr. David M. Watson, Mr. William Doig, and Mr. James Tate.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

THE CHAIRMAN said the result of the election had been that the six outgoing members of the Council had been returned, together with a seventh new member, Mr. Brittain. The first business was the election of officers; and it gave him much pleasure to propose that Mr. Wells be elected President for the ensuing year. They all recollected with what ability Mr. Wells filled the chair on a previous occasion, and the business-like manner in which he conducted, without fear or favour, the affairs of the Society. Personally he (Mr. Montgomery) was under great obligations to him, for during the past year as Vice-President he did much detail work that belonged to the chair.

Mr. BEGGS seconded, saying they were all aware of Mr. Wells's business capabilities and of the grip that he had of the affairs of the Society. Of course it was understood that Mr. Montgomery had refused to continue in office?

THE CHAIRMAN: Certainly, Mr. Beggs; definitely.

Mr. DOIG wished to say a word on behalf of the North. They all knew how much Mr. Wells had done for the Society, and that as President he was the right man in the right place. The only thing he (Mr. Doig) was sorry for was that Mr. Montgomery could not be persuaded to remain in office for another year.

Mr. CONNOR, as a country member, desired to endorse what had been said about Mr. Wells. They had the greatest confidence in him, and felt that with a man like him in the chair there was nothing that could be done to further the interests of the Society that would not be done.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. WELLS, in taking the chair, assured the members that he very highly appreciated the honour that they had conferred on him and the kind words that had been spoken of him. He assured them that he would have very much preferred that somebody else took the position; but as it was the general wish of the members that he should accept the presidency he did so in the hope that when, at the end of the year, he should hand over the reins of office to his successor, he would still have their good will. He would use his best efforts to forward the interests of the Society; and if these should meet with their approval it would amply repay him for the time that he might have to give to the affairs of the Society during the year. (Applause.)

THANKS TO THE RETIRING PRESIDENT.

THE PRESIDENT moved that the Council should place on record their appreciation of the very able manner in which Mr. Montgomery had filled the presidential chair during the past year. He had shown that it was quite possible for a member of the Society who lived outside Dublin to fulfil those duties well. He had been identified with the Society for a great number of years, and had a grasp of its work that few possessed. He had never spared himself when any work had to be done for the Society in Northern districts, and consequently he was no novice when he took the chair. During the year he had attended in Dublin fifteen times, which for one who lived so far away was a very good record; and he had kept himself constantly in touch with the Registrar by letter, so that the Society did not suffer by his absence. He was sorry that Mr. Montgomery could not see his way to holding office for another year; but he had been elected President without his permission and took the office much against his will. He was a man who believed in thoroughly discharging the duties of any office that he undertook. It must have been pleasing to him at the annual meeting to find that, although three or four points were raised, so little fault was found with the work done by the Council during the past year. Of course the prosecutions were a difficulty, it being so hard to catch offenders, and unfortunately the police did not help them in the way they ought; but he hoped the Council would be able to impress on the Inspector-General that if he did not aid them the law must become a dead letter.

Dr. WALSH seconded the vote to Mr. Montgomery, who, he said, was an ideal Chairman. Mr. TATE supported the motion, and the PRESIDENT, in putting it, said that if they polled the druggists of the whole North of Ireland, they would be found to a man in favour of Mr. Montgomery holding the chair. He had had an unpleasant duty to perform in connection with prosecutions; nevertheless, they gave him credit for never doing anything of a harsh nature.

The motion was passed by acclamation.

Mr. MONTGOMERY, in responding, said he was proud of the position he had occupied. It was as complimentary to his friends in the North as it was an honour to himself; and it was at the same time a proof that Dublin was willing to share honours with the provinces. He expressed his gratitude to Mr. Ferrall, the Registrar, who had had exceptional work during the year. (Applause.)

THE VICE-PRESIDENCY.

Mr. BEGGS proposed that Dr. Walsh be elected Vice-President. He said Dr. Walsh had taken a deep interest in the Society, and had had a very large experience of its working; and he was sure that with Mr. Wells as President and Dr. Walsh as Vice-President there would be no cause for disappointment.

Mr. TATE seconded, saying he was sure that all the

members of the Society would be rejoiced at the appointment. (Applause.)

Mr. MONTGOMERY supported, and the PRESIDENT, in putting the motion, said he hoped they would put Dr. Walsh in the chair at the end of the year.

The motion being passed unanimously, Dr. WALSH feelingly thanked his colleagues for electing him Vice-President. He said he was a junior on the Council, but he hoped during the coming year to get fully into the working of the Society. The only thing that gave him confidence in undertaking the office was that with Mr. Wells as a leader he knew his task would be a comparatively light one. Were he to consult his own personal wishes, he would request them not to ask him to take office; but he could not refuse to take the post after the very kind manner in which it had been offered to him. (Applause.)

OTHER BUSINESS.

On the motion of Mr. TATE, seconded by Mr. DOIG, Mr. John Smith was re-elected Hon. Treasurer.

The PRESIDENT remarked that Mr. Smith had done his duty well during the past year, and had presented a balance-sheet which showed that the funds of the Society were in a satisfactory state.

Mr. SMITH said he fully appreciated the confidence placed in him. His duties had been comparatively easy on account of the methodical way in which the Registrar did his share of the work.

On the motion of Mr. SMITH Messrs. Vincent Johnston and D. M. Watson were elected auditors.

The several committees were then appointed.

The ordinary business of the Council was next proceeded with, and the reports of the committees having been dealt with, on the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by Mr. JOHNSTON, Mr. H. J. Sumner, Ph.C., Belfast, was elected a member, and Mr. P. J. T. Cosgrave, R.D., was elected an associate druggist.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by Mr. J. SMITH, the following were nominated for membership: Dr. T. A. Furlong, Ph.C., Dublin; Mr. J. McClelland, Ph.C., Ballyshannon; Mr. Roden Johnston, Ph.C., Downpatrick; and as Associate Druggist Mr. John Byrne, R.D., Athboy.

The Council then adjourned.

Canadian Notes.

(From our own Correspondent.)

EARLY CLOSING.—In Ottawa the druggists have decided to close their stores on Sundays entirely, with the exception of the hours between 6.30 and 9.30 in the evening. Many of the city doctors have, it is reported, been consulted, and are heartily in accord with the movement.

CANADIAN BUYERS have been importing alcohol and ether very largely from Germany in spite of the 33½ per cent. extra import-duty they have had to pay on them. This will be stopped now in consequence of the dumping clause, the German Central Bureau for Commercial Treaties says, because alcohol and ether are taxed in Germany, and, therefore, are sold cheaper for export than they can be bought by German users.

DOGFISH v. CODFISH.—Mr. Gilbert S. Troop, managing director of Messrs. Black Brothers & Co. (Limited), Halifax, N.S., in an interview with the representative of the "Montreal Star," had the following to say with reference to the dogfish problem: "This should be made the subject of a joint inquiry by the three Governments. There should surely be some method of putting an end to this scourge. In the business in which our firm is more especially interested—that of the selecting, packing, and marketing of cod—we find these dogfish to be the most absolute pests. The cod-industry is a very large one, coming second, I believe, on the list of fish industries of Canada, and running into millions of dollars. Last year the catch of cod fell off everywhere, and those which were caught were poor and thin, so that it required several times as many livers to produce the cod oil as formerly. No one seems able to give any adequate reason for this."

American Notes.

(From a Correspondent.)

THE "LADIES' HOME JOURNAL" has returned to the crusade against "the patent-medicine curse." The editor gives up a whole page in the current issue of the journal to a denunciation of proprietary articles. Evidently he is not very much daunted by the \$200,000 libel suit brought against him, nor by the liability that others may follow.

WHENEVER A CUTTER finds it impossible, or at least difficult, to secure patent medicines under the operations of the tripartite plan of the N.A.R.D., he brings suit for conspiracy against the organisation. Several such cases are now pending in different cities of the country, and one has recently been brought in Malden, Massachusetts. Walter Faulkner, a cutter of that city, wants \$15,000 in order to appease his feelings.

COCAINE.—The prosecution of druggists in Chicago who violate the anti-cocaine law continues. The maximum fine of \$100 was inflicted a week or two ago on Louis Re and Adolph Brendecke, who have been fined several times before. On this occasion Brendecke was proved to have sold "flake," a substance containing 50 per cent. of cocaine, to boys in their teens. There is a vigorous determination apparent in American pharmacy to bring this anti-cocaine evil to a stop as early as possible. More and more stringent laws are being enacted in the various States.

HOW SALARIES MAY GROW.—The investigation of the California State Board of Pharmacy by the Special Committee appointed by the Governor has been one of the most sensational developments on this side of the water during recent months. Several witnesses gave testimony which indicated that the Board was in the habit of favouring the students from a particular school of pharmacy. Charges were also apparently substantiated that the Board remained continuously in session over long periods of time, and thus drew large salaries. The investigation has not yet been completed.

THE PRE-REQUISITE LAW in New York State comes into effect on January 1, and after that date no student will be admitted to a college of pharmacy in the State if he has not had a preliminary education represented by twelve regent's counts. This amounts to practically a grammar-school education. An interesting result of the law has been that the matriculation at all of the colleges in the State is very large this autumn. Not all of the matriculants, however, expect to go right on with their course. They get themselves on the rolls now, and then plan to take the course at their leisure, thus avoiding any compliance with the preliminary requirements. At least one college has set its foot down on this scheme, and the others will have to do it also if they desire to retain the respect of the better element of pharmacists in the calling.

ANTI-CUTTING.—A court decision recently given in Chicago is rather a damaging blow to the tripartite plan which the N.A.R.D. has been working. The decision was rendered in the Platt case and declared that the officers of the N.A.R.D. had violated an injunction granted two years ago for the purpose of protecting Platt from being interfered with in securing supplies from jobbers and manufacturers. It may be, however, that this decision will turn out to be a blessing in disguise. The N.A.R.D. has wanted to abandon the old tripartite plan and to adopt in its place the direct-contract and serial-numbering method. The N.A.R.D. is soon to hold its annual meeting in St. Louis, and one of the most important questions to come up is that of finance. "How will the N.A.R.D. get sufficient funds to carry out its plans?" is the great and pressing question. Some N.A.R.D. men favour an increase in the national dues as a means of increasing the Association's revenue; others favour instead a modification of the direct-contract and serial-numbering plan of protecting prices, under which a rebate-coupon scheme can be made to facilitate the collection of dues from all retailers who enjoy the benefits of the plan; others suggest "special benefits" for members by authorising the Executive Committee to use the buying power of the membership to obtain price-concessions.

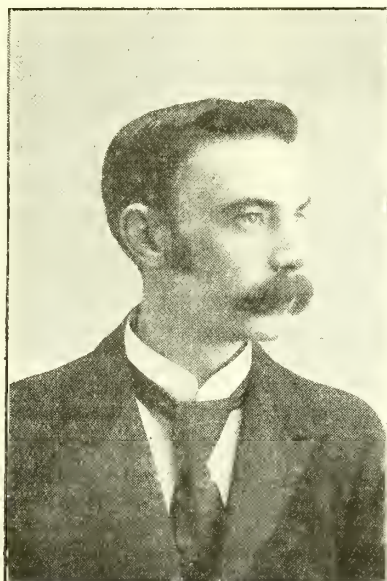


MR. GEORGE BENNETT,
Vice-President.



MR. A. HIGGS, J.P.,
Treasurer.

OFFICERS
OF THE
SOCIETY OF
CHEMIST-OPTICIANS.



MR. C. J. G. BUNKER,
President.



MR. R. TOCHER,
Vice-President.



MR. J. HARCOMBE CUFF,
Secretary

NOW that the constitution of the Society of Chemist-Opticians is complete, it is a fitting time to publish the portraits of the officers of the Society. The Society was founded at a public meeting held at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel, E.C., on April 25, the rules being finally approved at a meeting on June 2. The Council of the Society were elected at the same meeting, but, in order that the Council should represent chemists from all parts of Great Britain and Ireland, vacancies were left to be filled by co-option. The Society thus clears itself from the suggestion that it is a purely London association. The President, Mr. C. J. G. Bunker, is a chemist living at Twickenham, who has developed the optical side of his business to a high state of perfection. He is known for his interest in trade-movements, being President of the P.A.T.A. and a director of the Chemists' Defence Association. The Vice-Presidents, Mr. George Bennett, of Stockport, and Mr. Robert Tocher, of Glasgow, are prominent men in the optical world. Mr. Bennett is President of the Manchester and North of England Optical Society, and Mr. Tocher is President of the Glasgow Optical Society. Neither of these Societies is confined to chemists, and it speaks eloquently of the standing of the two Vice-Presidents of the Society of Chemist-Opticians that they occupy the premier positions in their respective local Associations. Mr. Alfred Higgs, J.P., the Treasurer, is in business at Kingston-on-Thames, and has had exceptional experience of the conduct of public business. He was the first President of the Thames Valley Chemists' Association, which well shows the appreciation of his fellow-chemists. His friends hope that he will soon have a seat on the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society. The Secretary, Mr. J. Harcombe Cuff, is characterised by his energy and enthusiasm in the cause of optical advancement. He has a business at New Southgate, and has made the optical side a speciality, following with eagerness every movement in

the direction of improvement of the status of opticians. He is the very man for the secretaryship of the new Society, and to his energy is due in a great measure the success which the Society is meeting from chemist-opticians. As for the Society, its chief aim is to protect the interests of chemist-opticians. Already valuable concessions have been obtained from the Spectacle-makers' Company which have justified the existence of the Society; and as the interests of opticians are at present threatened from more than one quarter, it behoves chemists who have optical interests to give the Society their support. The Secretary's address is 25 Friern Barnet Road, New Southgate, N.

New Books.

These notes do not necessarily exclude subsequent reviews of the works. Any of these books can be supplied, at the published price, to readers of this journal on application (with remittance) to the Publisher of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Bottomo, S. R. *Electrical Engineering for Students*. Illus. $7\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 154. 2s. net. (G. Pitman.)

Coles, A. C. *Clinical Diagnostic Bacteriology*. Including Serum-diagnosis and Cytodiagnosis. With coloured plates. 9×6 . Pp. 246. 8s. net. (Churchill.)

Henderson, J. *Practical Electricity and Magnetism*. New edit. $7\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 434. 7s. 6d. (Longmans.)

Johnson, A. E. *Analyst's Laboratory Companion*. 3rd edit. $7\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 160. 6s. 6d. net. (Churchill.)

Snell, S. *Eye-strain as a Cause of Headache and other Neuroses*. $7\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 62. 2s. 6d. net. (Simpkin.)

Taylor, F. *Manual of the Practice of Medicine*. 7th edii. $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 1082. 15s. net. (Churchill.)

Weights and Measures (Metric System) Bill [H. L.]—Report from Select Committee; Proceedings, Evidence. Appendix. 7d. [355.] (Eyre and S.)

Australasian News.

Communicated by the Australian Staff of "The Chemist and Druggist."

The fullest information regarding the Australasian drug-trade and pharmacy is given in "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia," a journal established by the proprietors of this journal, and published in Melbourne, Vic. Copies of the monthly issue can be obtained at 6d. each, post free, from the office of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Note.—"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the following, amongst other, societies:

Central Pharmaceutical Association, N.Z.
Canterbury (N.Z.) Pharmaceutical Association.
Otago Pharmaceutical Association, N.Z.
Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.
Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland.
Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia.
Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania.
Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia.

New South Wales.

MR. FOLLET J. THOMAS, chemist, of Glen Innes, has been re-elected to the present Parliament.

A NEW SIDE-LINE.—Mr. Courtney Puckey, chemist, of Wollongong, has secured about forty-three acres of land facing the sea beach, and it is believed intends to cultivate marran grass, which has changed acres of sandy wastes at Port Fairy, in Victoria, into grazing paddocks.

EUCALYPTUS OIL.—At the regular monthly meeting of the New South Wales branch of the British Medical Association, Dr. E. C. Hall read a paper on eucalyptus oil in the treatment of typhoid fever. Dr. Hall states that the temperature falls half a degree after each dose of the oil, and remains down for two or three hours. He does not consider the oil more efficacious as an intestinal antiseptic than other drugs, such as carbolic acid, salol, etc. Its beneficial action depends upon the amount of ozone it contains and its stimulating and diaphoretic properties.

TABLET-MEDICATION.—The "Australasian Medical Gazette" reprints the circular on tablet-medication (*C. & D.*, September 10, page 459) distributed by the Sydney pharmacists to members of the medical profession in Sydney and suburbs, and adds: "We are sure that every member of the profession on due consideration will see the importance of this matter, but, as we understand some more drastic action is in contemplation with the pharmacists, we withhold further comment at present." At the August meeting of the Council of the N.S.W. branch of the British Medical Association, it was resolved that the request of the pharmacists for a conference on certain matters affecting the medical profession and the pharmaceutical chemists be granted.

New Zealand.

MR. T. W. KEMPTHORNE, of Kempthorne, Prosser & Co., left during the month for an extended visit to the Old Country.

UNIVERSITY DEGREES.—A Bill has been introduced by the New Zealand Premier to give the University of New Zealand the power to confer degrees of bachelor, master, and doctor in various branches of applied science, including, among others, veterinary medicine, public health, and dental surgery.

PRICE-PROTECTION.—Mr. Seddon, Premier of New Zealand, it has been said, has declared himself entirely against price-protection and determined to put a stop to it. Investigation, however, shows that Mr. Seddon's remarks were directed against trusts combining to fix prices of such things as flour. Nothing was said concerning the fixing of prices by individual manufacturers.

RECIPROCITY.—The Pharmacy Board of New Zealand, at its annual conference, resolved to submit the question of reciprocity with the Australian Colonies to a referendum of the registered chemists on the alternatives—first, that certificates be exchanged on the whole register basis; secondly, that certificates be exchanged on the basis of examination; thirdly, that reciprocity be not entered into at present. Reciprocity with Cape Colony was found on consideration to be impracticable under the present Act.

EARLY CLOSING.—The amending Shops and Offices Bill now before the New Zealand Parliament will apply equally to pharmacy as to any other business, with the exception that pharmacies may be kept open on the statutory closing-day for the supply of medicines and surgical appliances

certified by a duly qualified medical practitioner to be urgently required. Unless pharmacists take special action in any town or district they will be included under any regulation that is made for the closing of shops at a certain time. If they take special action, a three-fifths majority of the pharmacists in business will determine whether all the shops should be closed, and at what hour.

SALE OF POISONS.—An amended Poisons Bill is under consideration by the New Zealand Government Departments, and the Pharmacy Board at its annual conference discussed the same question. It was found impossible to obtain the provisions existing in Australia, limiting the issue of licences to sell poisons to unregistered persons residing four miles from the nearest registered pharmacist. The existing Act allows any reputable person to be registered, and this will have to be continued. The only advantages that are hoped for are that the administration of the Act may be placed in the hands of the Pharmacy Board, and that an annual registration-fee may be imposed, half to go to the Government and half to the Board, to enable it properly to administer the Act.

Queensland.

P.A.T.A.—The Brisbane Traders' Association have decided to endorse and support the P.A.T.A. movement, and have referred the matter to a committee. It is hoped that an arrangement will be made with the Traders' Association to distribute lists to dealers in Brisbane other than chemists, and to support the movement by endorsing the lists.

Victoria.

FORMALIN FOR WHEAT-DRESSING.—Complaints have been made that the use of formalin destroys the germinating-power of grain. The Victorian Department of Agriculture reply that the solution should not be more than 1 lb. of formalin to 40 gals. of water. If formalin is used too strong, the germinating-power may be destroyed.

THE DENTAL BOARD OF VICTORIA at its July meeting had before it an application for registration of a D.D.S., Chicago, U.S.A. The Board decided that the diploma does not represent a course of professional education equal to the Victoria curriculum, as it had required only a three years' course and no Preliminary examination. The Dental Defence Association waited by deputation upon the Board, asking assistance in obtaining an amendment of the Act to provide more thoroughly against unregistered persons practising as dentists.

THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY.—Arising out of the proposed change of name of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia (*C. & D.*, October 8, page 634), a special general meeting of the members was called to confirm the resolution to alter the memorandum of association and articles. At the meeting, which was held on August 3, there was an attendance of twenty-two members, and a long discussion resulted in the defeat of the motion to change the name by sixteen votes to five. The five members of the minority—Messrs. Woolnough, Strutt, Champion, Rankin, and Miss Wollen, with Mr. Pickford—demanded a poll, so as to take the views of all the members of the Society.

P.A.T.A.—The Council of the Victorian Association met on August 4. Mr. H. A. Woolnough in the chair. Messrs. Bonnington & Co., reporting on an allegation that a grocer in Fitzroy had Bonnington's Irish moss marked in the window for 1s., found that another Irish moss, not on the P.A.T.A. list, had been confused with Bonnington's. Mr. Zions, Secretary of the New South Wales P.A.T.A., wrote that one large English firm had written to him that they understood a number of the largest English firms had declined to have anything to do with the P.A.T.A. movement of Australia, and asking if the Victorian Secretary had received any refusals. The Secretary had replied that he had received no such communications. Messrs. F. H. Faulding & Co., of Adelaide, wrote that, as their lines are as yet little known in Victoria, they did not need to place them on the protected list. The Foster-McClellan Company, of Sydney, promised future consideration to the placing of Doan's lines on the list. Scott & Bowne, of Sydney, wrote that the question of placing Scott's emulsion on the list was receiving the attention of the head office in London.